
REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 2, 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. Numinen moved to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Comm. Benzie. Motion adopted (6-0)

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Board action: Comm. Alholm moved to approve the Regular Meeting minutes held on May 19, 2026. Second by Comm. Numinen. Motion adopted (6-0)

4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Margaret Brumm, Marquette,** explained the cigarette butt-recycling program.
- **John Gumaer, Marquette City** commented on Marquette City Commissioners the lack of professionalism at the last meeting.
- **Jeremy Johnson, Ishpeming City** commented on the tourism lodging tax.
- **Ruby Miller, Marquette,** organizer of We the People Action Fund, spoke about Transit Riders United.
- **Eric Sibley** spoke regarding his FOIA Request.

6. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS:

Board action: Comm. Numinen moved to approve the total expenditures paid via check & EFT transfers for the period May 15, 2026 through May 28, 2026 were \$2,202,342.44; and biweekly payroll for the period ending May 23, 2026 was \$908,763.94. Second by Comm. Benzie. Motion adopted (6-0)

7. PUBLIC HEARING

8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:

a. Sheriff Department Stats for May 2026 by Lt. Jason Hart

Corrections: Average Jail Population= 81; Average Inmates Boarded Out= 22; Average Homeless Population= 16; Average Federal Inmate Population= 1 **Law Enforcement:** Calls for Service= 298; Case Reports= 50; Crashes= 45; Civil Papers Served= 161; Civil Papers Received= 189 **Special Operations:** Personal Injury Crashes= 3; Structure Fires= 3; Public Assists= 1 **Front Office:** Handguns Registered= 170; Warrants Entered= 42; Protective Orders Entered= 25; Sex Offenders Verified= 28; Background Requests= 74

b. Mine Inspector's Report for 2025, Steve Bertucci, Mqt Co. Mine Inspector, was present to answer any questions regarding his report. (Report on file.)

c. Lake Superior Partnership, Christopher Germain, outgoing CEO was present to introduce Natalie Chmiko, the incoming CEO, and to review with the board the 2026 First Quarter Report (Report on file.)

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

10. ACTION ITEMS:

a. Rural Access to Behavioral Health Services Resolution

**RESOLUTION TO PROTECT RURAL ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
BY ADOPTING PROPOSED FY 2027 BOILERPLATE LANGUAGE**

WHEREAS, it is critical to ensure that rural communities are treated consistently, thoughtfully, and proactively in state policy decisions that affect access to behavioral health services; and,

WHEREAS, it is critical to ensure that rural communities are treated consistently, thoughtfully, and proactively in state policy decisions that affect access to behavioral health services; and,

WHEREAS, varying definitions of “rural” across MDHHS programs create instability for providers and counties and can impact funding eligibility, disrupt service planning, and ultimately affect access to care; and,

WHEREAS, rural stakeholders are often engaged late in the policymaking process, limiting the ability to address practical challenges before implementation; and,

WHEREAS, the attached boilerplate language addresses the above issues by establishing a single, consistent definition of rural, partially rural, and frontier areas across all department programs, and by creating a formal Rural Consultation Caucus to ensure rural perspectives are incorporated before major policy decisions are finalized.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners urges the Michigan Legislature to include the attached boilerplate language in the FY 2027 state budget.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to send a copy of this resolution to Senator Ed McBroom, Representative Karl Bohnek, Representative Dave Prestin and Representative Gregory Markkanen.

Board action: Comm. Numinen moved to adopt the Resolution and add Representative Gregory Markkanen as amended above. Second by Comm. Nordeen. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Comm. Numinen, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Benzie, Comm. LaLonde, Comm. Alholm and Chairperson Derocha. Nays: None. Motion adopted (6-0)

b. BS&A Software Migration to the Cloud Platform

Kami Fassbender, Financial Manager, provided the memo to the Board that explained the following: The County of Marquette has utilized BS&A Software, LLC Utility Billing module since 2002, Property modules since 2007, and financial management and Personnel management since 2014. Each BS&A module (we currently use 16 at the County and seven at the Health Department) has their own database that is separate from other modules, required bi-weekly updates to each module, and several manual processes among County departments.

BS&A is based in Michigan and provides services to over 1,000 local and county government clients in the state. Sixty of Michigan’s 83 counties use their financial management software. BS&A’s software platform was originally Pervasive (1995-2001), which migrated to .NET in 2008, and is now being migrated to the Cloud. BS&A released the Cloud based solution in 2021 and no longer offers the .NET solution to customers. While they still provide support for the .NET version, BS&A has informed us that they will announce an end of life for the .NET platform with the next 5 years.

Migration to the Cloud is expected to deliver workflow efficiency through shared workspaces, as well as provide a secure and encrypted web-based system, cybersecurity, disaster recovery and 2-factor authentication that all come with the Cloud. The Cloud based platform eliminates, or reduces the physical servers, provides for geo-redundant backups that occur automatically at regular intervals to two different regions in the United States, and provides unlimited storage on MS Azure. Additional benefit to the County includes migrations of County and Health Departments financial records into one database, and streamlining our financial management, payroll and accounts payable processing.

Currently, we pay approximately \$70,000 annually for the modules we are using with the .NET platform.

Attached is a proposal we received from BS&A for the migration to the Cloud. To summarize the quote, the annual cost for all modules is \$189,520 (this does not include the field inspection module as BS&A is in the finalization stages of releasing the app, which would allow inspections offline and load them into the cloud in office). The upgrade, implementation and training cost would be approximately \$205,665, depending on the

actual expenses following the completion of training activities. The implementation timeline typically spans 6-12 months depending on the number of modules and complexity of data migration.

County Administrator, Human Resources Director and Risk Manager, and I have met with all the stakeholders who use BS&A to evaluate our options, and to consider the costs and tradeoffs associated with this project. Upon County Board approval of this purchase, the Finance Department will work with BS&A to coordinate with all County departments on a migration plan, implementation and training to occur in 2027. The annual cost of the software funded by the Tech fund, and incorporated into FY 2027 budget. We are respectfully asking you to consider the use of \$205,665 of the reserve for special appropriations to fund the one-time migration, implementation and training costs.

Board action: Comm. Benzie approved the “Software and Services for BS&A Cloud” proposal dated March 11, 2026, pending legal review, and the use of reserve for special appropriations of \$205,665 to fund the migration and implementation costs; and an annual cost for all modules for \$189,520. Second by Comm. LaLonde. Motion adopted (6-0)

c. Purchase of Enclosed Trailer for Sheriff’s Office

Lt. Brian Kurin, stated the following: On April 14, 2026 a Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the County website for a new enclosed trailer for the Sheriff’s Office. In addition to posting on the website, the RFP was sent directly via email or hand delivered to three local vendors. The date/time set for the sealed bid openings posted for May 14, 2026, at 1:00 PM. The main purpose for this covered trailer is to transport ORV’s and a medical rescue sled.

On May 14, 2026 at 1:10 PM, Cpl. Thomas and I started opening and reviewing the five vendors and seven bids received. Adventure Centre of Marquette and Midway Rentals of Negaunee submitted two bids. No one requested nor arrived to witness the bid opening. The bids each assigned a number in the order opened.

A tabulation of all bids received is enclosed. Three of the bids appeared to meet the specifications set in the RFP with one of those exceeding the specs. Four did not meet building specifications. The two lowest two bids that met specifications are as follows:

- \$19,999.00 Adventure Center Marquette, MI (Bid #2)
- \$20,399.00 Adventure Centre, Marquette, MI (Bid #3)
- \$36,910.00 Phoenix Contracting, Ruskin, FL (Bid #7)

To complete the trailer for service \$790.00 in emergency lights and \$1000.00 for decals of a total capital outlay of \$21,789.00. \$18,000 in funding is available from Michigan State ORV Grant. With the remaining amount of \$3,789.00 to be funded by the use of reserves/ and proceeds from the sale of the old trailer.

Board action: Comm. Alholm moved to purchase the specified aluminum enclosed trailer from the lowest bidder, Adventure Center of Marquette, in an amount not to exceed \$19,999.00. Second by Comm. LaLonde. Motion adopted (6-0)

d. Purchase of Sonar for the ROV

Lt. Brian Kurin, was present to explain the following: The Marquette County Sheriff’s Office received a grant of \$26,030.00 to purchase a sonar unit that mounts on and works in conjunction with our current ROV platform. The ROV designed by The Oceanbotics Company and considered proprietary technology. As such, any attachments specifically designed and programmed by The Oceanbotics Company are only available to purchase directly through them. There is currently no other vendor that can produce or is authorized to produce attachments for our ROV unit. The sonar unit used for searching underwater areas for possible criminal acts, locating drowning victims, and inspecting underwater infrastructure. Currently, there are two models of sonar available from The Oceanbotics Company. The other sonar unit available does not meet the specs as it does

not have proper sensitivity to show the type of objects we are looking for, thus making it incompatible for our missions. The second option meets our needs and is what we have in our quoted price. With the sonar unit being proprietary to our ROV system we cannot fulfill the bid process because a sonar unit purchased from another company will not work with our ROV. Additionally, this project funded through grant funds specifically outlined to purchase this specific sonar unit.

Board action: Comm. Nordeen moved to purchase the sonar unit from Oceanbotics with the grant funds in an amount of \$26,030.00. Second by Comm. Benzie. Motion adopted (6-0)

e. FY 2027 Office of Community Corrections Funding Application

Trevor Kadlec, Community Corrections Director, was present to explain the following: Marquette Regional Community Corrections is proposing the FY 2027 Office of Community Corrections (OCC) Funding Application to the OCC State Board.

The Marquette Regional Community Corrections is comprised of the following counties: Marquette, Alger, Dickinson, Iron, Houghton, Baraga, and Keweenaw. The proposed amount is \$1,205,795.20. This amount distributed throughout six programs: Pretrial Assessment Program, Pretrial Supervision Program, Moral Reconciliation Therapy Program, Opiate/Methamphetamine Specific Program, and the Pretrial Substance Abuse Testing Program. This proposed amount also supports one full-time position: Community Corrections Director, and one part-time position: Community Corrections Coordinator. These programs are grant funded by the Office of Community Corrections/Department of Corrections. Public Act 511 of 1988 (PA511), which is Michigan's Community Corrections Act, dictates the administration of comprehensive plans for Community Corrections programs. The Marquette Regional Community Corrections Advisory Board (CCAB) is the authority to create local sentencing policies and programs based upon the state has prioritized goals and objectives. The CCAB met on May 27, 2026 and unanimously passed the FY 2027 OCC Funding Application.

Board action: Comm. Benzie moved to approve the FY 2027 OCC Funding Application and authorize County Administrator, Duane DuRay to sign the FY 2027 OCC Contract as the fiduciary for Marquette County. Second by Alholm. Motion adopted (6-0)

f. Air Traffic Control Tower Design Contract Amendment

David Erhart, Airport Manager, was present to explain the following: Marquette Sawyer Regional Airport (MSRA) staff respectfully requests approval of an amendment for a design services contract between Marquette County and Mead & Hunt for rehabilitation of the Air Traffic Control Tower. This amendment seeks to incorporate design costs associated with a recent announcement of intent to fund from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) through the Federal Contract Tower (FCT) competitive grant program. Marquette Sawyer Regional Airport listed as the recipient of \$3,807,546.00 of funding. This funding opportunity will be fully federally reimbursed, with no local share required, and is slated to cover additional rehabilitation items such as cab improvements, window replacement, elevator replacement, and generator replacement.

Cost and Value Assessment:

- Total Estimated Project Cost: \$3,807,546.00
- Additional Design Services Cost (Mead & Hunt): \$302,810.00

To verify the reasonableness of the proposal, an Independent Fee Estimate (IFE) commissioned by working with an unaffiliated consultant. Due to a very truncated timeline available for design and bid, this IFE is still in process. Results from the IFE expected prior to the board meeting and be made available to the board when received. Mead & Hunt have historically provided fees evaluated to be within or below market range. Approval of this agreement will position the County to move forward efficiently to submit a final application within the

Board action: Comm. Alholm moved to approve the amendment to the design contract agreement with Mead & Hunt in the amount not to exceed \$302,810.00 and authorize Chairperson Joseph Derocha to sign the agreement. Second by Comm. Nordeen. Motion adopted (6-0)

g. Sibley FOIA Appeal (no packet material) to be addressed after Closed Session

11. LATE ADDITIONS

12. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Margaret Brumm, Marquette**, requested the Board hire her to run the cigarette butt-recycling program, as she cannot find any grants for this program.
- **Greg Durand**, questioned hangar maintenance, bylaws, possibility of building a box hangar instead of a T-Hangar.
- **Maureen Gumaer**, (Zoom) inquired about the resolution in 10a), review of 5/19/2026 Minutes.
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. LaLonde** reminded the public on the importance of washing your hands during cold and flu season.
- **Comm. Benzie** spoke about Catholic Social Services and the lack of affordable housing, and funding.
- **Comm. Numinen** spoke about the corrections and provided clarification; also future pop-up tables.
- **Administrator DuRay** acknowledged the website missing page 2 of the May 19, 2026 Minutes and took responsibility.
- **Kami Fassbender, Finance Manager**, thanked the board for their support tonight on action item 10b).
- **Chairperson Derocha**, apologized to the general public for missing page 2 of the 5/19/2026 minutes, and will be corrected 6/03/2026. Staff does strive to do their best, and mistakes will corrected. Appreciates the public who attend meetings and participate in public comment.


14. CLOSED SESSION: MCL 15.268(1)(h): To consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute.

Board action: Comm. Numinen moved to go into Closed Session under MCL 15.268(1)(h) as stated above. Second by Comm. Alholm. A roll call vote was taken: Ayes: Comm. Numinen, Comm. Alholm Comm. Benzie, Comm. LaLonde, Comm. Nordeen, and Chairperson Derocha. Nays: none. Motion adopted (6-0)
*****A short recess to clear chambers*****

Commissioners came back into open session, where Comm. Nordeen was excused to leave, and the following occurred:

Regarding item 10g., Sibley FOIA Appeal, the Board asked Mr. Sibley if he would like to have a hearing on the matter, or if he would like to Board to decide with a written opinion? Mr. Sibley agreed to the hearing, and to send the material he has in his possession via email. June 16, 2026 at 5:00pm was agreed upon by the Board and Mr. Sibley for the hearing. No vote was taken.

15. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:26 p.m.



Cory Beth Grigg
Chief Deputy Marquette County Clerk

Joseph Derocha, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners