

September 9, 1986

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole for the second session of the 1987 Budget Hearings on Tuesday, September 9, 1986 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Lowe called the meeting to order, roll call was taken and the following roll recorded:

Present: Comm. Berglund, Comm. Corkin, Comm. Valente and Comm. Lowe.
Absent and Excused: Comm. DeFant.

Chairperson Lowe explained the purpose of budget hearings in brief as follows:

"The Board of Commissioners is charged with responsibility of allocating the County's dollars to provide the progress that, as a group, they feel are in the best interest of present and future taxpayers of the County. Even though the Committee of the Whole is charged with responsibility to study and recommend a budget to the Board, the budget hearing review process is structured so each Commissioner will hear each department/budgetary unit's budget presentation in an informal "work session." No Committee decision is made at the initial budget hearing nor will even a tentative commitment be made to any department/budgetary unit, prior to the Committee of the Whole completion of working sessions after budget hearings."

Mr. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, stated that the Committee would find all of the requests and appropriation recommendation for tonight's budget hearings under requests for Special Appropriations in Volume I.

Ishpeming Ski Club Centennial -

Mr. Burton Boyum representing the Ishpeming Ski Club gave a brief history of the Ski Club and distributed a calendar of events for the 1987 Ski Club Centennial Celebration. He stated that ESPN would be covering the centennial events on national television and a Ski Club Centennial Book is being planned. The \$1,000.00 appropriation requested from Marquette County is to help defray expenses for publishing of the centennial book and in return a page in the book would be dedicated to the Marquette County Board of Commissioners.

Marquette County Soil & Water Conservation District -

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, recommended the same procedure that was recommended last year which is no appropriation from the Marquette County General Fund. Instead it is recommended that the district go through the Natural Resources Commission as was done in 1986. This would allow them to work with Soil & Water Conservation District and then look to make an appropriation out of the Forestry Fund in the same manner as was done this current year. Mr. Aloia stated that the Soil & Water Conservation District is to be commended for the amount of time and effort they put in working with staff and the Natural Resources Commission over the course of 1986 in putting a plan together for how the money would be spent in the County. Karen S. Boyer, Administrative Assistant of the Marquette County Soil Conservation District, was in attendance and stated that the \$12,000.00 requested funds will be applied primarily toward employment of a full time District Administrative Assistant and a full time Forester. She agreed with Mr. Aloia and felt there was no problem working through the Natural Resource Commission and thanked the County for their support in the past and anticipated support in the future.

U.P. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) -

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, stated that the U.P. Emergency Medical Services budget for 1986 was \$11,000.00, the request for 1987 is \$9,900.00 and the recommendation is \$9,900.00. Mr. Robert Struck, Executive Director of U.P. EMS was present and gave a brief history of the program including financial data. He expressed appreciation for past appropriations and support the EMS Program has received.

UPTRA (U.P. Travel & Recreation Association) -

Appropriation request for 1987 budget is \$500.00 and recommended amount is \$500.00. Mr. Chris Dancisak, Executive Manager of U.P. Travel & Recreation Association, and Rita Hodgins, Director of UPTRA, were in attendance and updated the Committee on recent developments and success of the Program. They stated in the past year UPTRA has been involved in a joint advertising program including Metropolitan Detroit, Fox Valley and other Wisconsin areas to name a few. They thanked the County Board for support and stated they are looking forward to an even more successful year in 1987.

Accounting -

Appropriation request is \$159,602.00 and recommended amount is \$157,787.00. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, stated that the main difference in the recommended budget from 1986, which was \$113,545.00 is \$15,000.00 in Professional and Contractual Services and \$22,000.00 in Audit Services. These costs, namely Cost Allocation and Audit Services, were included in a separate finance budget which the County no longer has and now the Department is really Accounting/Finance. Mr. Gary Yoder, Accounting/- Finance Supervisor, stated this recommendation was workable and he was satisfied.

AMCAB -

David M. Brantley, Executive Director of the Alger Marquette Community Action Board, addressed the Committee regarding the \$2,000.00 budget request for the purpose of maintaining Outreach Services and \$15,000.00 for Home Delivered Meals in Marquette County. He added that the \$1,000.00 recommendation made by Mr. Aloia to AMCAB was acceptable and expressed appreciation for the recommendation of \$15,000.00 which is included in the Commission on Aging budget.

Humane Society -

Mr. Hugh M. Kahler, President of the Marquette County Humane Society, was present and expressed appreciation and concern regarding the recommended \$10,000.00 Humane Society appropriation. Mr. Kahler stated the request of \$15,000.00 was to be used to help defray expenses on the addition of office space and a cat room to the present animal shelter. The County Administrator also recommended \$7,500.00 for the Humane Society/Boarding Fees.

OEDP -

Mr. Phillip Seitz, OEDP Secretary, expressed appreciation for the \$500.00 recommended budget appropriation and stated \$500.00 had been requested in order to cover rent expenses for a meeting place.

U.P. Health Systems Agency -

Mr. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, announced that a representative for the group had been in Marquette at 8:40 a.m. instead of the scheduled meeting time of 8:40 p.m. No funds were recommended. An information sheet was distributed.

MarqTran -

Robert Niemi, Executive Director, and Robert Atkins were in attendance, distributed material and made a formal request of \$27,400.00 appropriation due to increased insurance rates. They stated that if funds were not available it would be necessary to increase bus fares and still felt this probably would not be adequate. They thanked the Committee for their time and past support.

Harvest Festival -

\$1,500.00 had been requested for 1987 and the recommended budget reflected no appropriation. Mr. Larry Arseneault, President of the Marquette County Harvest Festival Association and John O'Bryant, Fair and Commodity Coordinator, were in attendance and expressed great displeasure that no funds were being appropriated. They gave a brief history of the Festival and urged the Committee to appropriate at least \$1,000.00 to the Festival. This has been done in the past.

Chairperson Lowe adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. O'Neill

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Deputy County Clerk