

September 15, 1986

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners Committee of the Whole met in a Budget Hearing on Monday, September 15, 1986 at 5:00 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 read the Rules of Order regarding the Budget Hearing Process as follows:

"The Board of Commissioners is charged with the 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 the 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."

#### Register of Deeds -

Mr. Paul Nykanen, Register of Deeds, was present and stated he in general agreed with the Administrator's recommendation except he is requesting a part-time position be upgraded to a full-time position. The Register of Deeds Office has three-and-one-half people, but is falling behind in the indexing of deeds. The County Board discussed the tract index and the user fees which have not been instituted as yet. County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, informed the Committee by the first week in October staff will have the second draft of the users fee study for work sheets. Recommendations regarding the tract index can be made then.

#### Sheriff -

Sheriff Joseph Maino and Undersheriff Michael Quayle were present and basically agreed with the Administrator's recommendations. They had some concerns about small but important items which were requested but the Administrator had not recommended, such as; a) four typewriters were asked for; b) need two portable radios; c) more money for uniforms; d) fire hose stations; e) Search and Rescue vehicle operating funds; f) public training for Search and Rescue was cut; g) narcotics vehicle repair was cut; h) intercom components for jail; i) the metal detector/scanner; j) inservice training - must maintain a level to retain State funding; k) radar for road patrols; and l) Emergency Services software.

#### Resource Management/Development Department -

Mr. Ron Koshorek, Director of Resource Management Development Dept., and Mr. Greg Seppanen, Chair of the Marquette County Planning Commission, were present before the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Koshorek made a presentation outlining his departments budget into its major areas and components. Mr. Koshorek stated he had no real problems with the Administrator's 1987 recommended budget. Mr. Seppanen asked the County Board to provide enough funding from Contingency so at least the Perkins Park study could be accomplished.

#### Commission on Aging -

Ms. Lynn Emerick, Director of the Commission on Aging, was present to discuss her budget and recommendations from the Administrator. Ms. Emerick briefly highlighted the Commission on Aging pointing out where the majority of time and funds are spent. Ms. Emerick appreciated the department head approach and stated that she can live within the budget recommended by the Administrator. Ms. Emerick read a list of direct services to the Senior Citizens which the Commission on Aging does, which include; volunteers visiting in homes, volunteer advocates for seniors in nursing homes, the peer visitors program, mental health outreach, groups at mental health, respite care providing vacation breaks for families, support services,



helping seniors with hearing problems, inhouse nursing, homemaker services, the Home Care Specialist training program, and legal information services for senior citizens.

Community Mental Health -

Dr. William Birch was present and indicated that under Public Act 423 the Mental Health Board is asking for the usual \$267,144.00. Mr. Birch pointed out that the Community Mental Health is not asking for more but wants to emphasize the fact to please not cut the budget. They get funds on a nine-to-one match. County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, explained that the County does not really have a choice and must give a two year advance notice to opt out of Public Act 423.

Equalization Department -

Mr. Henry Schneider, Equalization Director, was present and stated that he basically agreed with the Administrator's recommendation and highlighted the basic functions of the Equalization Department. Mr. Schneider pointed out that the tax program on the County Computer System is working well and that the City of Ishpeming will be using the County's system. Mr. Schneider requested a full-time position to help with placing Ishpeming on the County System. This position could be a three-quarter time with tax administration programs and one-quarter time for the Treasurer's Office working on delinquent taxes. Mr. Schneider commended the County's Data Processing Department and said the new tax program on the County computer is working well, however it needs two things; a) additional staff support; and b) a hardware upgrade. In the future, if the whole County was on the County's tax system it would be close to self-sufficient.

At 7:00 p.m. the Committee of the Whole took a break and 7:15 p.m. back in session.

Road Commission -

Mr. John Beerling, Superintendent of the County Road Commission, and Mr. Peter Bollero, member of the Road Commission, were present. The Road Commission had requested \$335,000.00 and the Administrator has recommended the same as last year - 0 dollars. Mr. Beerling stated the recommendation is no surprise, but wanted to come to the departmental budget hearings to show good faith in the process. Some day they may be able to receive some funds. 60% of the Road Commission's revenue comes from the gas tax, which has remained fairly stable. Even though the gas mileage of automobiles has increased so has the amount of travel.

County Clerk -

David Roberts, Marquette County Clerk, explained that he had no problems with the Administrator's recommendations in regards to the Plat Board budget, the Jury Commission budget, the Election budget and the County Clerk's budget.

Department of Social Services -

Mr. David Berns, Director of Social Services, was present to discuss his departmental budget. Mr. Berns briefly outlined the Child Care Fund and explained if the court reduces its budget it just shows as an increase in the Child Care Fund budget. The County was considering an extensive home service program which would have been 100% County funded because the State removed the \$40,000.00 grant. However Mr. Berns has requested a scaled down version for a cost of \$14,000.00. Mr. Berns also briefly discussed the County Hospitalization Program. It cost up to \$700.00 per day to keep a client hospitalized. This is an unpredictable expense but the eligibility is very strict, and Jackie Dault keeps close watch to keep County expense down.

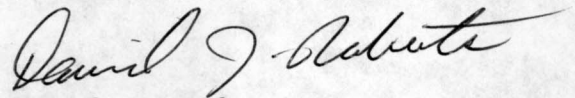
Administrator - Risk Management - Purchasing -

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, reviewed his budgets with the Committee of the Whole and stated he has no problems with the requests. He pointed out in the future Marquette County must get into a safety program.

The Committee of the Whole discussed the Budget Hearing schedule and set the next budget hearing work session for Friday, September 19, 1986 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



David J. Roberts  
Marquette County Clerk