

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, May 8, 1990 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. DeFant, Comm. Seppanen and Comm. Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. Bays.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the Finance/Personnel Committee meeting and the Executive/IGR Committee meeting held on April 24, 1990.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Russell Gardner, Lake Independence resident, was present to address item 9) the Lake Independence Dam Fence. Mr. Gardner claimed the fence along the edge of his property is unsightly, people can walk around it, and it may be a liability because of the barbwire. He would like to see the fence removed.

Charles Manto, Director, Marquette County EDC, was present and announced that the County OEDP Committee on May 29, 1990, will conduct a forum on the Michigan Scenic Rivers Act Proposal.

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

It was moved by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved with the following changes: that item 9) the Lake Independence Dam Fence discussion, and item 12) the Health, Dental, and Optical Insurance Bids, be moved to after item 5). Also a late addition be added, item 15) the Flight Service Station update.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. DeFant, Claims and Accounts for the period April 21, 1990 through May 4, 1990 in the amount of \$864,120.80 were approved.

The Committee considered revision of the Lake Independence Dam Fence. Civil Counsel, David Payant, explained that the County and/or the Lake Level Drainage District may be liable, should a person fall in and drown. The dam is known as what is commonly called an "attractive nuisance." No method is perfect, however the County would be wise to do something to prevent access. The best method to do that, Mr. Payant would defer to an engineer.

Carr Baldwin, Engineering Consultants, Inc., on behalf of the Drain Commissioner, explained that at present the water level is low, so there is space to walk around the fence. When the water level is up a person could not walk around the fence without getting their feet wet. Mr. Baldwin suggests that the fabric of the fence be replaced with a 3/8" mesh so that the fence could not be climbed, and that perhaps shrubbery or evergreens could be planted to make the area more attractive.

Chairperson Corkin summarized the County Board position: They would like to work with Mr. Gardner to make the fence more attractive, but the fence cannot be removed. The County Board must be concerned with public liability and responsibility on behalf of the taxpayers.

The Committee of the Whole requests that Mr. Gardner work with the Drain Commissioner to determine a fence design that would be more attractive to Mr. Gardner's property, and yet provide protection for the County from liability, the suggested cost to be \$2,000.00 or less. Mr. Baldwin will return to the Committee at a future meeting with a final recommendation.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Randy Girard, Human Resources Director, regarding the Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance Bid. Mr. Girard explained that Blue Cross Blue Shield responded with the low bid for both the present insurance coverage and the proposed Preferred Payment Option (PPO) insurance plan. Cameron Cronkright, Blue Cross Blue Shield representative, was present to discuss the plan and answer questions.

A PPO will save the County thousands of dollars in premiums while providing the same benefit level as the present coverage. The change is in the way the benefits are administered. About 70% of area doctors agree to

be part of the PPO and therefore accept what BCBS will pay for services. As a result, a County employee will receive no bill or paperwork. Mr. Girard added, when more employers like the County, the City, etc., join the PPO, then more doctors, including internists, will participate. The PPO applies only to the Blue Cross Blue Shield portion of our medical coverage, not to the Master Medical, Dental, Optical or Prescription riders.

Mr. Girard explained that no action should be taken by the Committee at this time. A group has been formed to meet with Blue Cross Blue Shield to discuss the PPO plan, the group consists of representatives from the various departments and bargaining units.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried to table the recommendation at this time, and it be considered again at a future meeting.

The Committee participated in a discussion of recycling with Lucille Scotti, Marquette County Recycling Coordinator. Ms. Scotti distributed an update on legislation regarding recycling, and an article entitled the State of Garbage in America, and information on the Solid Waste Management Authority's establishment of Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers throughout Marquette County. Ms. Scotti reported that without recycling markets any recycling program is only a glorified collection program. The daily tonnage now at the landfill is 200 plus tons per day, and many things should not be in the landfill, such as corrugated cardboard, aluminum, wood, glass, certain plastics, etc.

Ms. Scotti is surveying the townships and cities in Marquette County to determine if they are interested in starting a County-wide recycling program. The Solid Waste Authority would prefer that the private sector handle recycling programs. There are a couple of private individuals interested in collecting recyclables. Some members of the Committee believe that the private sector will only take the cream of the recyclables and leave the rest, and prefer the Solid Waste Authority to have control over a County-wide program.

The Committee will discuss recycling again after the results of Ms. Scotti's survey are available. Chairperson Corkin on behalf of the County Board thanked Ms. Scotti for the update on recycling. No action was taken at this time.

The Committee considered a Notice of Intent from the Dept. of Social Services to license a Foster Family Group Home in Skandia Township. Patricia Gruber, Planner, was present and explained that the Michigan Dept. of Social Services is required to notify the County (or its designated agents) at least 45 days prior to licensing the facility. Ms. Gruber reported there are no similar group homes within 1,500 feet of the proposed facility, therefore under the County Zoning Ordinance it will be treated as a single family home.

There is a statutory responsibility for the local unit of government to give appropriate notification of the proposal to license a facility to those residents whose property lines are within a 1,500 foot radius of the property. The three options to fulfill this requirement are: 1) a public hearing involving neighborhood residents, local officials, State DSS representatives, the applicant, and other persons; 2) a direct mailing to all residences within 1,500 feet; and 3) a publication of a notice of intent to license a facility in a local newspaper of general circulation.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. DeFant and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board direct Resource Management/Development staff to give appropriate notification of the proposal to license a facility through option 2) a direct mailing to all residences within 1,500 feet, and option 3) a publication of a notice of intent to license a facility be printed in the local newspaper; and further that this procedure be followed as a matter of policy in the future.

The Committee considered a memo from Gary Yoder, Finance Manager, regarding the 1990 budget amendments. Mr. Yoder was present to discuss the amendments summarized as follows:

- Amendment Nos. 13 & 14 provide for the carry-forward balance of various projects in the Public Improvement Funds which were not completed at the end of December 31, 1989.

- Amendment No. 21 adjusts the Employment Programs budget to reflect the actual amount of federal and state grants received to operate the Summer Programs.

- Amendment No. 23 adjusts expected receipts and disbursement for one of the Kellogg Grants being handled by the Cooperative Extension Dept.

- Amendment No. 24 carries forward the \$14,000.00 which was budgeted in 1989 in the Community Development Fund to fix the caretakers house at the Acocks site for the CCC Program.

- Amendment No. 25 establishes the budget amount for the Soil Conservation District 1990 appropriation which is made annually by the County NRC.

- Amendment No. 26 is an amendment to the Service Center fund which is being made to incorporate the charging of indirect costs.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the 1990 budget amendments Nos. 13, 14, 21, 23, 24, 25, and 26, as presented.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Randall Girard, Director of Human Resources, that the County Board review Contractual Service Arrangements in County departments to determine if they should be more appropriately placed as regular County staff members. The Sheriff's Dept. has two such employees, the Juvenile Division three, and the Health Dept. twenty-three employees who are providing contractual services.

It was moved by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Seppanen and unanimously carried that the Committee table the communication on contractual service arrangements until Mr. Girard has had the opportunity to discuss the matter with the bargaining units.

The Committee considered a communication from Randall Girard, Director of Human Resources, regarding holidays for part-time staff. Mr. Girard distributed information regarding the implications and costs of extending pro-rated holiday pay to part-time County employees.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. DeFant and unanimously carried that issue of holidays for part-time staff be considered during the 1991 budget process.

The Committee considered a Notice of Hearing from the Michigan Public Service Commission regarding the Michigan Exchange Carriers Association, Inc., (MECA) requesting new rates and charges for services on behalf of all local exchange telephone companies. Civil Counsel, David Payant, requested that the Committee provide the time and opportunity for him to contact the Michigan Public Service Commission on the Notice of Hearing and to report to the next Committee meeting.

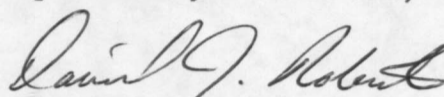
The Committee considered an informational memo from Michael E. Zorza, Administrative Lieutenant, Emergency Program Manager, announcing that Marquette County has been allocated additional funds under Phase VIII of the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program. The new award amounts to \$17,109.46 which will bring the total 1990 funds received for this particular program to a total of \$44,150.55. Mr. Zorza was present and explained that the additional monies are most welcome by the local organizations providing emergency food and shelter services in Marquette County.

Civil Counsel, David Payant, updated the Committee of the Whole regarding the proposed closure of the Flight Service Station by the FAA. Mr. Payant had nothing new or positive to report, however he has been in contact with Senator Levin's office and they are seeking the appropriate legal grounds for filing an injunction.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

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

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, May 8, 1990, 5:00 p.m.

Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE/PERSONNEL COMMITTEE MEETING AND THE EXECUTIVE/IGR COMMITTEE MEETING BOTH HELD ON APRIL 24, 1990.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Discussion of recycling with Lucille Scotti, County Recycling Coordinator.
7. Rec Department of Social Services Notice of Intent to license a Foster Family Group Home in Skandia Township.
8. Rec 1990 Budget Amendments.
9. Lake Independence Dam Fence Discussion.
(No packet materials)
10. Contractual Service Arrangements.
11. Holidays for Part-Time Staff.
12. Health, Dental and Optical Insurance Bids.
13. Notice of Hearing before Michigan Public Service Commission for new rates for telephone service by Michigan Exchange Carriers Association, Inc.
14. *into* Announcement that Marquette County has been allocated additional funds for 1990 Emergency Food and Shelter Services.
15. *nb* FSS inquiry of prosecutor's office.
- 16.
17. PUBLIC COMMENT.
18. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
19. ADJOURNMENT.