

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, August 14, 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.

There were no minutes to approve.

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

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. DeFant, the agenda was unanimously approved with the addition of two items: 19) PPO Blue Cross/-Blue Shield Health Care Insurance Plan; and 20) Report on the Airport Rescue Training School Grant Proposal.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. DeFant, Claims and Accounts for the period July 20, 1990 through August 9, 1990 in the amount of \$1,431,250.83 were unanimously approved.

The Committee considered the Mather Nursing Home Healthcare Facility Revenue Bonds, Series 1990B FFE/Michigan Properties, Inc. Stephen Eaton, President of WelCare International Inc., Sue Cielinski, Administrator of the Mather Nursing Home, were present to discuss the sale of the Mather Nursing Home and the bond issue. Also present, Robert Cooper, Marquette County's Bonding Counsel, to answer questions regarding Marquette County's financial liability with the bonding issue.

County Commissioners, Administrator Aloia, and those present engaged in a lengthy discussion on the sale of the Mather Nursing Home, and also its possible affect to patient services.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. DeFant, and carried on a three-to-one vote, with Comm. Corkin voting nay, the Committee of the Whole recommended that the County Board adopt the resolution approving the purposes and activities of FFE/Michigan Properties, Inc., its acquisition plan, and certain series 1990B bonds to be issued by FFE/Michigan Properties, Inc., in the amount not to exceed \$7 million dollars to acquire the Mather Nursing Home, 435 Stoneville Road, Ishpeming, MI.

The Committee considered a grant award from the Michigan Office of Criminal Justice to the Marquette County Sheriff's Dept. in the amount of \$14,656.00. The grant covers the salary of a Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Officer for approximately 9 months, for the school year September 1990 through May 1991. Sheriff Maino was present and thanked the County Board for their support of the DARE Program. The grant funds will allow 400 students in Marquette County, in thirteen school districts, to participate in DARE.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends that the County Board approve the appropriation of the remaining funds available for 1990 for the necessary match for the DARE grant.

The Committee took under consideration a request from Charles L. Manto, EDC Director, for an additional \$10,000.00 in funding for office construction so that the EDC can move to the Marquette County Airport Terminal Building. Mr. Manto was present to discuss the proposal and answer questions.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends that the County Board appropriate \$10,000.00 from the fund equity account for the EDC office construction cost at the Airport Terminal Building, contingent upon the EDC providing \$10,000.00, and the Marquette County Airport Committee providing three years of free rent.

The Committee considered a memorandum from the Marquette County Planning Commission supporting the Wisconsin Electrical Project. Wisconsin Electric Power Co. proposes to construct a \$36 million dollar electric power transmission line between the Presque Isle Power Plant in Marquette, and the Plains Substation in Dickinson County. Jim Kippola, Senior Planner, was present to answer questions. The planning Commission voted to support the project for the following reasons: 1) the selected alignment alternative within Marquette County is most consistent with County Forest Management Plan objectives; and 2) Page 366 of the County Comprehensive Plan recognizes the inadequacy of connection between the Michigan and Wisconsin distribution networks. Accordingly the proposal would help alleviate this problem.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board declare its approval for the plans of the Wisconsin Electric Power Co. to construct a new transmission line, and forward an appropriate letter of support for the project.

The Committee considered a memo from the Marquette County Planning Commission which supports the concept of using a portion of the 1990-1991 Solid Waste Planning Funds from the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources, to perform a detailed County-wide Recycling/Composting Feasibility Study. Mike Etelamaki, Director, Marquette County Solid Waste Management Authority, was present and authorized by the Authority to speak in support of the feasibility study. Mr. Etelamaki explained that the pilot project is a small scale demonstration of what could be a County-wide curbside collection of recyclables, a recycling processing center, and a composting facility. The primary product of the project will be compost, with target markets being highway right-of-way topsoil enrichment, and mining reclamation. Mr. Etelamaki pointed out that Cleveland Cliffs is interested in the project and has made a tailings basin site available for compost.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board give its approval for the concept of using a portion of the 1990-1991 Solid Waste Planning Funds to perform the Recycling/Composting Feasibility Study.

The Committee took under consideration a request from Michele Bahrman, First Responder Coordinator for Skandia/West Branch Townships. Ms. Bahrman reported that the Skandia/West Branch First Responders usually have an accident victim ready when the Marquette EMS arrives, however; a difficulty occurs when an accident victim must be removed from a vehicle. In such a case, the extrication unit must be dispatched from Negaunee, which can take an additional 30 minutes. 95% of injured people can be saved if they can be in a hospital operating room within 60 minutes of their accident, therefore the Skandia/West Branch First Responders request the placement of an extrication unit.

Lt. Michael Zorza, Director, Marquette County EMS, was present and explained that the County-wide Emergency Plan was to have extrication units available for the use of all townships to incorporate the whole County in its equipment needs; however, there are some holes in the County plan and unfortunately Skandia/West Branch is one of them. Extrication units are very expensive and the County needs more funding and more grants so they are able to adequately maintain and purchase new emergency equipment. Lt. Zorza recommends that the County work with Skandia/West Branch Townships to reduce response time and to assist them in seeking funding. The ten-year emergency plan which was drafted in 1979 is now coming to an end, and a new plan will shortly be forthcoming, however; there is no spare equipment, in fact the County needs equipment and can only fund 10% of its own needs.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole directed Staff to work with Skandia/West Branch Township First Responders in assessing their equipment needs, assisting them in cutting response time, and seeking grants.

The Committee of the Whole received an update from George Wright, Facilities Manager, regarding the Air Conditioning Compressor Failure Investigation. Mr. Wright reported they have not found anyone yet to do the investigation, however; responses from several firms are forthcoming and a recommendation should be available in two weeks.

The Committee considered a memo from Cyndi Beaudry, Office Manager/Risk Management Specialist. The replacement of the air conditioning system compressor cost approximately \$16,630.30. Marquette County's insurance carrier has confirmed coverage for the damages and will pay the replacement costs, less a \$1,000.00 deductible. A budget amendment is necessary to increase the revenue budget by \$15,630.00 and also to increase the expenditure budget by the same amount. In addition, the \$1,000.00 deductible will need to be transferred from Risk Management funds to the Resource Management budget.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the necessary budget amendments for the replacement of the air conditioner system compressor.

The Committee took under consideration a grant proposal presentation by Larry Holm, Great White North (GWN) Uplink, Inc., to be submitted to the Neighborhood Builders Alliance for the amount of \$10,000.00. Mr. Holm pointed out that GWN is not asking for financial support, but only a letter of support to the Neighborhood Builders Alliance. GWN is a non-profit corporation that provides local and world-wide communication access for individuals, families, and groups, through computer telecommunications. The \$10,000.00 mini grant application proposes to establish ten terminal access sites for public use in such places as libraries, hospitals, and public buildings. The terminals would provide on-line access to information from 7000,000 broadcasting bulletin boards throughout the country with information regarding medical services, crisis services, disaster services, and community events.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board provide a letter of support for the Great White North Uplink, Inc., mini grant proposal to be submitted to the Neighborhood Builders Alliance.

The Committee considered an amendment to the Communication Facility Utilization Agreement between the Michigan DNR and Marquette County to include the Gwinn Tower Site. Civil Counsel, David Payant, would like two changes in the agreement as follows: 1) The County must have permanent access to the power site, which requires removal of the 30 day termination clause. 2) Should the Michigan DNR abandon the tower, the site should revert to Marquette County.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the Communication Facility Utilization Agreement between the Michigan DNR and the County of Marquette, with the recommended changes to the agreement to be prepared by Civil Counsel.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Civil Counsel, David Payant, for terms of office for public officials appointed by the County Board of Commissioners to serve on the Alger-Marquette Community Action Board (AMCAB). Currently the Marquette County Board of Commissioners appoints four members to AMCAB and the Alger County Board of Commissioners appoints one additional member. Mr. Payant recommends that the County Board set a two year term for its four appointees, with staggered terms so that two appointments are made each year.

County Clerk Roberts further added that he will work with AMCAB to determine which two members terms of the four will have their terms expire on December 31, 1990, and which two will expire December 31, 1991.

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, second by Comm. Seppanen, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve of two year staggered terms for four appointees to the Alger-Marquette Community Action Board, with two appointments to be made each year.

The Committee considered the latest billing for Specific Ore Tax litigation. The total cost for this billing is \$9,120.50, of which the County portion is \$1,696.44, for the months of February through June, 1990.

Comm. Corkin has requested an update from Richard D. Reed, Republic Township Attorney, as to the status of the litigation and will forward copies to Commissioners when the update becomes available.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board pay the latest Specific Ore Tax litigation fee of \$1,696.44.

The Committee considered the General Fund Financial Condition Projection Report and the Mid-year Budget Review from Gary Yoder, Finance Manager. Mr. Yoder was present to review the report and answer questions. The Mid-year Budget Review resulted in an unfavorable variance of \$212. It is recommended that contingency account be decreased by that amount leaving a balance of \$69,921.00. The projected 1990 General Fund balance for year end is approximately \$375,067.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the Mid-year General Fund Financial Condition Projection Report and adopt the various budget amendments for the Mid-Year Budget Review as presented.

The Committee took under consideration a proposal to change the Blue Cross/Blue Shield coverage over to a PPO Program. Randell Girard, Human Resources Director, was present and explained that the bargaining units are willing to participate in PPO for a one year trial. Mr. Girard recommends the Committee of the Whole recommend the PPO Program for full adoption to the County Board. There is a 45 day adoption period before the PPO takes effect. When Marquette County becomes part of a Blue Cross/Blue Shield PPO plan, its annual health insurance premium will be reduced by approximately \$90,000. If for some reason the plan becomes inoperative, such as a major disagreement between Blue Cross/Blue Shield and the participating doctors, the County could then return to its present medical coverage.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the Blue Cross/-Blue Shield PPO Program for a trial period of one year.

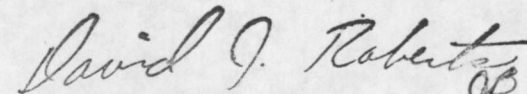
The Committee considered the application for federal funding in the 1990 Airport Improvement Program for the establishment of an Aircraft Crash Rescue Training School. Charles Manto, EDC Director, and Walter Sleeter, President of Aircraft Rescue Training, were present to discuss the grant proposal and answer questions. The total proposal for the Aircraft Rescue Training School amounts to \$5,020,000, of which 90% or \$4,475,000 would be federally funded. The state would contribute \$245,000 and the remaining \$300,000 would come from local sources, that is the private firm or organization that would operate the training center. Mr. Manto is confident that the local banks will collateralize the assets and equipment provided for by federal funding of the training center and will not require the County Board to give its full faith and credit for the \$300,000. The County Board previously approved a pre-application, however the Department of Transportation-Federal Aviation Administration considers the pre-application/application to be one document.

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, second by Comm. Seppanen, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the pre-application/application for federal funding for the Aircraft Rescue Firefighter Training School, contingent upon legal and administrative review.

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

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, August 14, 1990, 5:00 p.m.

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

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES. (None).
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
- Rec'd 6. \$6,385,000 Healthcare Facilities Revenue Bonds (Mather Project) Series 1990B FFE/Michigan Properties Inc. (Materials Forthcoming).
- Rec'd 7. Grant Award from the Michigan Office of Criminal Justice to the Marquette County Sheriff's Dept. for DARE.
- Rec'd 8. EDC Office's move to the Airport.
- Rec'd 9. Wisconsin Electric Project.
- Rec'd 10. A memo from the Planning Commission regarding Feasibility Study - Recycling/Composting.
11. Skandia/West Branch First Responders request for Extrication Unit in Skandia.
- Rec'd 12. Air Conditioner Compressor Failure Investigation.
- Rec'd 13. Air Conditioner Compressor Failure Budget Amendment.
- Rec'd 14. Great White North, Inc. Neighborhood Building Alliance grant proposal presentation by Larry Holm.
- Rec'd 15. Amendment to the Gwinn Antenna Agreement between the DNR and Marquette County.
- Rec'd 16. Marquette-Alger Community Action Board (AMCAB) - terms for Board of Directors.
- Rec'd 17. Payment for Specific Ore Tax Litigation Reimbursement.
- Rec'd 18. Mid-Year Budget Review and General Fund Financial Condition Projection Report from Gary Yoder, Finance Manager.
- Rec'd 19. Health Care Ins. (PPO)
- Rec'd 20. Report on Airport Rescue Training School
- 21.
22. PUBLIC COMMENT.
23. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
24. ADJOURNMENT.