

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, February 26, 1991 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Angeli, Comm. Bays, Comm. Seppanen and Comm. Corkin. Absent: None.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, the minutes of the Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting and the Executive/IGR Committee Meeting held on February 12, 1991 were unanimously approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Ken Tuominen, Ely Township Supervisor, was present and spoke in support of the resolution in item 11), which calls for a health study of those individuals who live within the area of the Elf System. The Ely Township Board recommends the resolution go further and establish a time frame for the implementation of the study. There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, the agenda was unanimously approved with the following addition; item 13), a communication from Delta County regarding transportation services.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, seconded by Comm. Angeli, Claims and Accounts for the period February 9, 1991 thru February 22, 1991 in the amount of \$473,938.29, were unanimously approved.

The Committee considered a letter from Joseph D. Cousineau, Accounts Service Administrator, Michigan Bell, regarding 9-1-1 services for the Michigamme Forest and Big Bay exchanges. Comm. Arsenault explained that the 9-1-1 Advisory Committee Meeting is recommending that the 9-1-1 Plan be amended to include the Michigamme Forest and to allow the Big Bay exchange to be put on line when ready, which is approximately three-to-four months after the County cutover date.

The Michigamme Forest was not included in the County's original plan, because it would not have been E9-1-1 compatible; however, the Upper Peninsula Telephone Company has since indicated it will be compatible. The approximate cost for including the Michigamme Forest in the 9-1-1 Plan will be one cent (.01) per month per line in Marquette County. The 9-1-1 Advisory Committee also considered a \$15,000 expenditure to bring the Big Bay exchange on-line at the same time as the County cutover; however, the cost could not be justified.

Pat Gruber, Planner, was present and further explained it is not good policy to spend \$15,000 for four months service, considering the fact that Big Bay will have toll free dialing during the four month delay. In this four months, seven numbers rather than four numbers will have to be dialed for approximately 60 calls.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board amend the County 9-1-1 Plan to include the Michigamme Forest exchange and allow the Big Bay exchange to come on-line when ready.

The Committee considered a memo from James Kippola, Senior Planner, regarding the 1991/1992 State Recreation Grant Application. Mr. Kippola was present and explained that Planning Staff has received the 1991/1992 Recreation Grant Application package from the DNR. Staff has reviewed the County Recreation, Forest Management, and Coastal Recreation Plans for eligible projects, and is recommending that the Perkins Park Support Building Project be submitted for DNR funding through the Land and Water Conservation Fund and/or the Recreation Bond Fund Program. The County share of the grant would depend upon which program the DNR used to fund it. The LAWCON Program is a 50/50 match, and the Recreation Bond Program is a 75/25 match. Total cost of the project is approximately \$49,000. The grant award

would most likely occur in 1992, requiring the County to commit to the project financially in the 1992 capital budget.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board authorize the 1991/1992 State Recreation Grant Application as presented by Staff.

The Committee considered a Public Notice from the Land and Water Management Division, Michigan DNR, regarding an application from Wisconsin Central Limited to obtain Bottomland Title to the area surrounding the Lower Harbor Ore Dock. The Great Lakes Submerged Lands Act (PA 247 of 1955) authorized the DNR to grant certain real estate rights in/over the public trust bottomlands of the Great Lakes to private parties provided the applicant is the adjacent riparian owner, makes the appropriate application, and the public trust in will not be impaired or substantially affected. No such agreement existed when the ore dock was first constructed. Wisconsin Central purchased the ore dock from Soo Line a few years ago and is interested in selling the property, but owns no clear title to the bottomlands as required by PA 247.

Pat Gruber, Planner, further explained that the Planning Staff has reviewed the application and has questions; first, the Public Notice did not have a legal land description, second, does the proposed Bottomland Title include filled-in lands?, and third, will the Marquette Dock Association, Marquette Fish Producers Co., Thill Fisheries, and the Marquette Yacht Club, continue to sublease from Wisconsin Central? Ms. Gruber is sure that the City of Marquette supports the bottomlands acquisition by Wisconsin Central.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board direct Planning Staff to forward questions to the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources regarding Wisconsin Central Limited application to obtain Bottomland Title around the Lower Harbor Ore Dock, and also to inquire about the development plans for the Lower Harbor by the City of Marquette.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Karla Hardy, Administrative Aide, to participate in the Ameritech Value Calling Plan. Ms. Hardy was present and explained that it was requested by Administrator Aloia to do a cost comparison of our present wats line system to the Ameritech Value Calling Plan. Ms. Hardy presented an analysis demonstrating a savings of approximately \$5,000 per year which could be realized by switching to the Ameritech Value Calling Plan.

Administrator Aloia was present and further explained that switching to the new plan will have no effect on the incoming wats line. Outlying townships that use long distance will still be able to call the County free of charge.

Chairperson Corkin, on behalf of the Committee, commended Ms. Hardy for her fine work.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board concur with the Staff recommendation to disconnect the two outgoing wats lines and direct dial all of our 906 area code calls by entering into a one-year Term Payment Plan with Michigan Bell under the Ameritech Value Calling Plan.

The Committee considered a letter from the City of Ishpeming requesting that Mr. Lee Guizzetti be allowed to complete his term on the Marquette County Central Dispatch Policy Board. The County Board on December 14, 1990, adopted an amendment to the Central Dispatch Policy Board bylaws at their request. The amendment defines an elected official to mean an elected member of the governing body of a county, city, or township. Mr. Guizzetti resigned from the Ishpeming City Council several months prior to the adoption of the amendment.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole direct Chairperson Corkin to acknowledge the request from the City of Ishpeming, and explain that due to the Central Dispatch Policy Board bylaws the City of Ishpeming should submit a member from their Council for consideration for appointment by the County Board to the Central Dispatch Policy Board.

The Committee considered a resolution drafted by Comm. Seppanen requesting that a health study be conducted on individuals who live within the area of the Elf System to determine possible adverse effects caused from electromagnetic radiation (EMR). During the last ten years, the indications are that the effects might be greater than thought. The State Health Dept. is willing to do a study, only if the federal government pays for it. The Navy is not against such a study, but has no money budgeted for it. Comm. Seppanen contacted the office of Congressman Davis and learned that the first step in getting federal funding for a study would be a resolution from the County Board.

Cheryl Reynolds, Marquette Resident, pointed out that in the "Science News" Magazine, June 30, 1990, appeared an article in which the Environmental Protection Agency now thinks that EMR can cause cancer, but the EPA has no data on the Elf project. Some studies have been done on animals, but none on humans. It would have been best that a study had begun prior to the Elf start-up, which would have provided the best possible data; however, a good study could still be developed. There have been citizen health complaints, but we do not know if they are related to Elf. All the more reason to do a good study.

Several Commissioners raised questions: Could a good study be done now? What new information has been available since Elf was built? Are we pushing the panic button?

Comm. Angeli felt the Elf project was studied to death during its onset and statements such as "Elf causes cancer" puts unnecessary fear in peoples minds. Elf plays an important role in our national defense, especially now in light of the present Gulf crisis.

Ensign Claud Allen, Executive Officer of Elf, was present and explained that he only became aware of the resolution because of yesterdays newspaper article. He was not prepared to answer questions on such short notice, but would be willing to provide expert information on the subject at Commissioners convenience.

On a motion by Comm. Angeli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried that the resolution be placed on file, and that the Navy be invited to participate in a Committee of the Whole meeting on March 12, 1991 at 4:30 p.m. to further discuss Elf.

The Committee considered a memo from Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Dept. Director, to award O'Boyle & Company the contract in the amount of \$25,149 for the second floor remodelling project in the Health Dept. O'Boyle and Company was the lowest qualified bidder, meeting all of the specifications and is within the budget projected for this project.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the bid award to O'Boyle and Company for the second floor remodelling project in the Health Dept. in the amount of \$25,149.

For Commissioners information, Chairperson Corkin distributed a letter from the Delta Area Transit Authority (DATA). DATA recently considered providing transportation services to Ewing, Wells and Turin Townships on a contractual basis. It was the consensus of the DATA that they are not interested in providing services for any townships outside of Delta County. The communication was placed on file.

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

Announcements

Chairperson Corkin will be attending a tax tribunal hearing Wednesday, February 27, 1991 in Lansing, regarding specific ore tax. Chairperson Corkin will report to Commissioners after his return.

Comm. Angeli questioned the status of our DSS Director. Civil Counsel Payant reported that Nancy DeWees will know Wednesday, February 27, 1991, whether or not she is being bumped, and then the County Board will have to decide its course of action.

Announcements Cont'd.

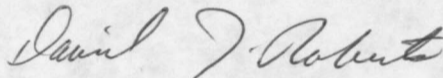
Comm. Arsenault reported that the Animal Control Committee met yesterday, February 25, 1991, and decided upon pursuing a user fee funded authority. The survey showed that 57% of the citizens in Marquette County would not support a millage for animal control.

Comm. Seppanen reported that the Community Mental Health Liaison Committee met Monday, February 25, 1991, and Community Mental Health is very pleased with the new facilities in the Geraldine DeFant Building. The Commission on Aging and Cooperative Extension have already moved in, and Community Mental Health should complete their move by March 15, 1991.

Administrator Aloia reported that Bond Counsel, Robert Cooper, called and explained that everything is in place for the refinancing of the Ishpeming City/Ishpeming Township Wastewater Treatment Bonds. The final resolutions have been prepared, and Ishpeming Township is considering their resolution tonight, February 26, 1991, Ishpeming City Thursday, February 28, 1991, and County Dept. of Public Works on Monday, March 4, 1991. If all three governing bodies approve their resolutions, Administrator Aloia would like the County Board resolution considered at the March 5, 1991 regular meeting. Commissioners agreed.

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, February 26, 1991, 4:30 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 HELD ON February 12, 1991.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
- R6. Letter from Joseph Cousineau, Account Service Administrator, Michigan Bell, regarding Michigamme Forest and Big Bay 9-1-1 exchanges.
- R7. Memo from Jim Kippola, Senior Planner, regarding 1991/1992 State Recreation Grant Applications.
- R8. Public Notice that Wisconsin Central Limited has made application to obtain a State of Michigan Bottomland Title to areas surrounding Lower Harbor Ore Dock.
- R9. Recommendation from Karla Hardy, Administrative Aide, to participate in the Ameritech Value Calling Plan.
- letter from comm.* 10. Request from Ishpeming City Council to allow Mr. Lee Guizzetti to complete his term on the Central Dispatch Policy Board.
- 3/12/91* 11. Resolution from Commissioner Seppanen urging health study of individuals who live within the ELF System.
- R12. Bid Award for Second Floor Remodelling - Health Department.
- filed in 6* 13. *Communication from Delta Co.*
- 14.
15. PUBLIC COMMENT.
16. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
17. ADJOURNMENT.