BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  MARCH 6, 1990

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 6, 1990 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.


A Salute to the Flag was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays and unanimously carried that the minutes of the Regular County Board meeting held on February 20, 1990 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin read the following proclamation naming March 1990 as "Women's History Month" in Marquette County.

90-7
"WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways;

WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural, and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home;

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation by providing the majority of the volunteer labor force of the Nation;

WHEREAS, American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions in our Nation;

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class, and ethnic background served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement;

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which create a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Marquette County Board of Commissioners that March 1990 is designated "Women's History Month" and we endorse appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities with this regard.

GERALD O. CORKIN, CHAIRPERSON
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Mr. Greg Veale, 2252 Montgomery Street, Marquette, MI, was present and read a letter regarding animal control. Mr. Veale is a dog owner, and keeps his dog under control at all times, and leashed in his yard. When a stray dog passes his
residence, it causes his dog to bark, and then he is the one that receives the complaints. When he has contacted the Sheriff’s Dept., he has been told that he must contain the stray animal, then the Sheriff’s Dept. will transport it to the Humane Society. Mr. Veale contends that if he can catch the animal, he might as well bring it to the Humane Society himself, rather than wait for 3 hours for the Sheriff’s Dept.

Comm. Corkin directed that Mr. Veale’s letter be referred to the Sheriff’s Dept. for a response to the County Commissioners. There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved with the following change; that action item 10b) be moved forward to privileged comment.

The County Board considered a recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to proceed with the bonding for the Marquette Township Sanitary Sewer Project. Mr. Kevin Hamann, Marquette Township Manager, was present and explained that the sanitary sewer project will cost an estimated $6 million dollars. Marquette Township received a $3.8 million dollar federal EPA grant and needs the remaining $2.2 million dollars financed with a bond issue. Because of the County’s higher bond rating, it would receive a lower interest rate and save the taxpayers of Marquette Township thousands of dollars.

Mr. Hamann introduced other township representatives present involved in the financing and construction of the sewer project as follows: Marquette Township Supervisor, Pat Mayer, Marquette Township Treasurer, Robert Atkins, Marquette Township Trustee, Harold Peterson, Financial Consultant for the project, Mr. W. Robert Studt, and Engineering Consultant, Don Weaver. Mr. Hamann thanked County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, for his assistance and recommendation in proceeding with the bonding issue.

Chairperson Corkin on behalf of the County Board congratulated Marquette Township representatives for undertaking this project for the citizens of Marquette Township, and expressed the County Board’s willingness to assist them.

It was moved by Comm. Bays, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the Marquette County assist Marquette Township in the bonding of the sanitary sewer construction project for the Trowbridge Park area, and further that Stauber, Barch & Assoc. be hired as the financial consultant for the project; and that the County hire Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone of Detroit, MI, as bond counsel.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried to place the following informational items on file; 9a) A recommendation from Chocolay Township to Bureau of Indian Affairs commenting on township services and zoning/land use for proposed land acquisition; 9b) Health Dept. 1990 Budget Amendment #1; and 9c) Air Access Michigan Marketing Study. *Note: Chairperson Corkin requested comment by Commissioners on this item.

The County Board considered a recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to adopt a resolution regarding contracts awarded by the Governor’s Office for Job Training. It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Bays and unanimously carried that the following resolution be adopted.

90-8 RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Office for Job Training has control of Title III funds available for state contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Office for Job Training has awarded said state contracts to organizations such as Action Management, Inc. without review or comment opportunity by the local substate grantees; and
WHEREAS, this award of state contracts has set up both a competitive and duplicative system of delivery of services to dislocated workers; and

WHEREAS, the subcontractor of Action Management and the Central Upper Peninsula, Newstart, has targeted and contacted employees of Lakeshore; some of which the local substate grantee has been working with as of May, 1989; and

WHEREAS, Newstart has promised an expenditure of funds to all workers dislocated from Lakeshore for clothing or boots as these individuals desire;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the counties of the Central Upper Peninsula oppose this action by the Governor’s Office for Job Training as it is not in the best interest of the constituents of these counties to have duplicative, competitive systems of delivery of dislocated worker services within the counties, and specifically, the counties of the Central Upper Peninsula oppose the subcontract by Action Management to Newstart for dislocated workers services in the Central Upper Peninsula. As the activities by Newstart demonstrate an unwillingness to cooperate and coordinate delivery of services to displaced workers, and because of this lack of cooperation and coordination, the potential for duplication of expenditures and potential repayment of those expenditures by the counties is increased.

GERALD O. CORKIN, CHAIRPERSON
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The County Board considered a request from the Marquette County Road Commission for a Capital Improvements Fund Transfer of $6,000.00. The Road Commission was granted $6,000.00 for a power broom as a CIP project, to provide more efficiency in their spring sand clean-up operations. Since that time, the underground storage tank rules, criteria, etc., have become a paramount problem for agencies like the Road Commission with large equipment fleet. In compliance with these rules, the Road Commission had their tanks tested in October and November, and are presently aware of tanks that do not pass the hydrostatic test. The Road Commission feels they can do without a power broom at this time, and are requesting that the $6,000.00 be allowed for the replacement of a failed gasoline storage tank at the Ishpeming garage. The total cost of the fuel tank project is estimated to be greater than $6,000.00, however these funds will help defray the cost that the Road Commission will be incurring. The Road Commission will furnish a breakdown of the costs of the replacement of the gasoline storage tank once the project is completed.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Bays and unanimously carried that the County Board approve the Capital Improvement Program Fund Transfer of $6,000.00 to help defray costs for the Road Commission replacement of a gasoline storage tank.

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

Specific Ore Task Update: Chairperson Corkin has served as Chairman of the Specific Ore Tax Advisory Task Force and reported that recently Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company has agreed to pay their specific ore taxes for 1990 based on the published price. C.C.I. paid specific ore taxes based on the published price for the years 1978 through 1986. Then for the years 1987 through 1989 Cleveland Cliffs paid their specific taxes based on their own prevailing price, and then again in 1990 have agreed to pay on the published price.

Republic Township is appealing the C.C.I. 1989 specific taxes based on the prevailing price to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Although the agreement for Cliff’s to pay based on the published price for 1990 is good news, the issue is not over. The Task Force will continue to work to change the law to a certain price per ton.
Chairperson Corkin also pointed out that the current law is not adjusted for inflation; the specific ore taxes paid by Cleveland Cliffs in 1978 amounted to $4 million dollars, and the specific taxes paid by Cliffs in 1989 amounted to $4.6 million dollars. If the 1989 taxes were adjusted to inflation, the 1989 specific tax would have been approximately $7 million dollars. Over the last 12 years, every property owner’s taxes have increased and C.C.I. should be paying their fair share also.

The County Board commended Chairperson Corkin and the Specific Ore Tax Advisory Task Force for their past and continuing efforts.

There being no further business to come before the County Board the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, March 6, 1990, 7:00 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS: Proclamation naming March 1990 as "Women's History Month" in Marquette County.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT.
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. A letter from Chocolay Township to Bureau of Indian Affairs commenting on township services and zoning/land use for proposed land acquisition.
   b. Health Dept. 1990 Budget Amendment #1.
   c. Air Access Michigan Marketing Study.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. A recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to adopt a resolution regarding contracts awarded by the Governor's Office for Job Training.
    b. A recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to proceed with the bonding for the Marquette Township Sanitary Sewer Project.
    c. Capital Improvements Fund transfer for the Marquette County Road Commission.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a.
    b.
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:
    ** The Finance/Personnel Committee Meeting and the Executive/IGR Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 1990 have been cancelled. The County Board will instead meet as a Committee of the Whole on Wednesday, March 14, 1990 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Courthouse Annex.**
14. ADJOURNMENT.