The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, May 22, 1990 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skevis Annex, Marquette, MI.


On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. DeFant, the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on May 8, 1990 were unanimously approved.

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

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the agenda was unanimously approved.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Bays, claims and accounts for the period May 5, 1990 through May 18, 1990 in the amount of $845,163.26 were unanimously approved.

The Committee considered the air conditioning bids for the purchase and installation of fourteen window unit air conditioners for the offices in the County Courthouse. George Wright, Facilities Manager, was present and explained that the County received three proposals from local dealers, with the low bidder being Mike's Refrigeration of Gwinn at $9,228.00. In the past, the County has had a service agreement with Mike's Refrigeration and they have performed well. The staff recommendation is to award the bid to Mike's Refrigeration. Several County employees purchased their own air conditioners last year, and County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, further recommends that they be reimbursed. The electrical work for the project is estimated to be $3,500.00, however the total budget is $17,500.00, which is more than adequate.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board accept the low bid from Mike's Refrigeration of Gwinn of $9,228.00 for the purchase and installation of fourteen window air conditioners, and also that those offices which already purchased air conditioners be reimbursed.

The Committee considered a report and recommendation from Brent Nault, Data Processing Manager, on the use of recycled paper. The following points were made by Mr. Nault: A) Recycled paper is rough in texture and the print fades over a short period of time, is acceptable only for rough draft work on materials that are reviewed once and thrown away. B) The quality of recycled paper is unacceptable for correspondence and final draft documents. C) Recycled computer paper costs more than standard computer paper. D) Recycled paper emits considerably more dust than standard paper, and the paper particles are a hazard to both printers and disk drives, increasing maintenance.

Given the risks involved to the County's computer equipment, and also the fact that 70% of the County's rough draft work is done on computer, Mr. Nault does not recommend the use of recycled computer paper at this time. Utilizing recycled paper for information processing is excellent in theory, but not practical or cost effective given the needs of Marquette County. Our stock of computer paper will be rebid in the Summer of 1991, and Mr. Nault will again request samples of recycled paper. As paper processing technology improves there may come a time when recycled paper will be acceptable.

Many County departments must use high quality paper for permanent records, such as tax records, vital records, and court documents. It is possible that throw away documents, like County Board packets, could be copied on recycled paper. A separate copying machine or more feeding trays will be necessary for the recycled paper, so employees can quickly shift
from one type of paper to another and not mix paper types. The consensus is that the County should attempt to use recycled paper wherever they can and also do what they can to cut down on paper use.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board direct Staff to develop a plan for the use of recycled paper within acceptable parameters, and use recycled paper wherever the County can for copying purposes.

The Committee considered a recommendation from James Kippola, Senior Planner, to continue the CEIP Program for this year. This grant program provides college students pursuing environmental careers the opportunity to help solve an environmental problem. This year Mr. Jerry Happel, one of the five mid-west grant recipients has presented a proposal to interpret results of the upcoming recycling/composting survey, and to make recommendations regarding County-wide recycling programs. The total project cost is $3,720.00. The $2,600.00 County share will come from the already appropriated Resource Management/Development Dept. salary (intern) funds.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Seppanen, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board continue the program and enter into an agreement with CEIP as recommended.

The Committee considered the reimbursement of expenses for members of the County Community Corrections Advisory Board who attended a conference in Traverse City on May 7, 8, and 9, 1990. Tal Lapins, Carol Bays, and Carol Moore, attended the conference and have bills to submit to cover their expenses. A scholarship from the Eastern U.P. Substance Abuse Services in the amount of $314.00 will be deducted from the total bill, and the Advisory Board requests the remainder of the bill be funded by the Technical Assistance Grant when the funds become available.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. DeFant the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended that the County Board allow the reimbursement of expenses from the Technical Assistance Grant for those members of the Community Corrections Advisory Board that attended the conference in Traverse City.

The Committee considered a memo from the Marquette County Planning Commission regarding the Michigan Scenic Rivers Act of 1990. The Planning Commission is recommending that the County Board request public hearings to be held in the Upper Peninsula prior to the bill’s adoption. The Michigan Scenic Rivers Act (HR 4019) would only affect one river in Marquette County, by designating four miles of the Yellow Dog River within the McCormick Tract as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; however, the bill effects 19 Michigan rivers, of which 14 are located in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole directed Staff to get more information regarding the Michigan Scenic Rivers Act from the U.S. Forest Service, and further request that Forest Service Representatives be available for a discussion on HR 4019 at the Executive/JGR Committee meeting scheduled for June 12, 1990.

The Committee considered the bids for the purchase of a new pick-up truck for the Resource Management/Development (Building Code) Dept. Staff recommends to purchase the pick-up from the second low bidder - Frei Chevrolet for $9,179.00 - because the lowest bidder did not meet the specifications, in that they offered a vehicle with 108" wheel base, rather than 112" wheel base.

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board award the Resource Management/Development Dept. pick-up truck bid to the second low bidder, Frei Chevrolet for $9,179.00.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, regarding the Service Center remodelling project. For some time now, the County Board has been aware of the deficiency in space
allocated to the Health Dept. The County Board intends to expand the space for the Health Dept. when it becomes available. The Cooperative Extension Office and the Commission on Aging will move to the new Jack's TGA building when it is complete. Also Simmons Airlines will be moving to the airport terminal building when the expansion is complete in July of this year. The EDC is also in the process of negotiating an arrangement with the Airport to move their offices to the terminal building. All of these changes will provide the County Health Dept. with additional space.

Administrator Aloia further pointed out that the money for the funding of their remodelling is available in the Health Dept. budget, but he is proposing that the County Board be responsible for overseeing this project. The Service Center is a County building, and any renovations and remodelling should be undertaken by the County Board and our Staff.

Administrator Aloia recommends that a) the County Board approve the intent to remodel the Service Center to allow the County Health Dept. to utilize the first and second floors of that facility; b) establish a management team which would be made up of Ron Koshorek, George Wright, Dr. Randall Johnson, and several key members of the Health Dept. Staff, who will work with the architect on the project; c) the remodelling project be phased in as space becomes available so as little as possible disturbance will take place of any tenants currently occupying the building; and d) the County Board agree to supervise the construction of this project as they do with other capital projects under their authority.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board concur with the recommendation of the Administrator for the remodelling of the Service Center for the use of the Health Dept.

The Committee considered a Resolution of Intent to approve the contract for the Negumee/Ishpeming Water Project. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, was present and explained that the EDA requires the County Resolution of Intent so that the grant procedure can proceed. The resolution does not commit the County to sign a contract at this time, but only informs that the County intends to enter into an agreement.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board approve the Resolution of Intent to approve the contract for the Negumee/Ishpeming Water Project.

The Committee considered a letter from the Michigan Association of Counties urging counties to contact their State Senators and ask them to send Senate Bill 937: Proposed Children and Family Services to the Senate Appropriations Committee for further financial analysis work.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board concur with the Michigan Association of Counties memorandum on Senate Bill 937, and further that this recommendation be considered as a Late Addition at the Special County Board meeting immediately following this Committee of the Whole meeting.

The Committee considered a report from David Payant, Civil Counsel, regarding the recent decision of the Michigan Court of Appeals where they upheld the Oakland County Circuit Court in that the State of Michigan has underfunded local units of government (including schools) by manipulating the categorization of funds in the Department of Mental Health’s budget. Mr. Payant pointed out that this decision may mean millions of dollars of State money to be paid to local units of government. The Michigan Supreme Court has granted the State's application for leave to appeal, and has invited interested parties to submit a request to file amicus curiae briefs. The deadline is June 1, 1990. Civil Counsel Payant added that Marquette County would have no new evidence to add by filing an amicus curiae brief, and does not risk loss of any revenue by not filing one. This lawsuit is similar to the one that Marquette County is participating in regarding the State funding of local courts.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Seppanen, it was unanimously carried that the order of the Michigan Supreme Court regarding the Court of Appeals decision be placed on file.

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

Announcements and Commissioner Comment:

The Marquette County OEDP has rescheduled its meeting from tonight to Tuesday, May 29, 1990 at 7:15 p.m. at the Country Kitchen in Ishpeming.

Civil Counsel, David Payant, reported that he has been in contact with the State Aeronautics Board and Senator Levin's Office, but has no new information regarding a possible lawsuit against the FAA to stop the closing of the Flight Service Station.

Comm. Bays distributed copies of the recently developed Marquette County Tourism Map. Comm. Bays attended the unveiling of the map at the Marquette County Tourism Welcome Center along U.S. 41 South in Harvey.

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 22, 1990, 5:00 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Air Conditioning Bids.
7. Recommendation on the use of recycled paper.
8. CEIP Program Proposal.
9. Reimbursement of expenses for attendance at Community Corrections Conference in Traverse City on May 7, 8 and 9, 1990.
12. Service Center Remodelling.
15. Communication regarding Michigan Supreme Court Decision on Headlee Amendment.
16. PUBLIC COMMENT.
17. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
18. ADJOURNMENT.