June 26, 1990

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners Finance/Personnel Committee met on Tuesday, June 26, 1990 at 5:45 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.


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

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Corkin the agenda was unanimously approved with the following late addition; item 15) a Capital Outlay request from the Youth Home.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays, Claims and Accounts for the period June 6, 1990 through June 21, 1990 in the amount of $1,091,655.70 were approved.

James Sodergren, Marquette County Treasurer, was present to discuss the Whetstone Drainage District. Two loan agreements in the form of promissory notes dated August 27, 1986 and July 17, 1985 were considered. Mr. Sodergren pointed out the agreements were for three years, but they are now long overdue and requested that the County Board look into the matter.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays, the Finance/Personnel Committee directed Civil Counsel, David Payant, to investigate the Whetstone Drainage District loan agreements, and to meet with Administrator Aloia, Treasurer Sodergren, and Drain Commissioner Sundberg, to determine the best remedy for future recommendation to the Committee.

The Committee a proposal for an Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Training Center to be located at the Marquette County Airport. Charles Manto, Executive Director of the Marquette County EDC, and James Alderton, Chairperson of the Marquette County Airport Committee, were present to discuss the proposal and answer questions. The EDC is requesting that the County Board support a pre-application to the FAA for grant funding of the Training Center. Total funding of the Center will be approximately six million dollars, of which 90% will be fundable from the FAA, 5% from the State of Michigan, and 5% from local sources. The local sources can be a private bank loan secured by someone from the private sector who will be operating and servicing the facility. The EDC estimates such a training center will employ 8 to 10 people, and bring in approximately 1,000 out-of-county students per year, most of whom will stay in the area for four-to-five days. The training center’s business receipts will approach $500,000.00 annually, with motel and restaurant receipts adding an additional $250,000.00 per year.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays, the Finance/Personnel Committee unanimously recommended the County Board give approval to the concept of an Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Training Center to be located at the Marquette County Airport, and further that the pre-application to the FAA for the grant funding be approved.
Finance/Personnel Committee Minutes
June 26, 1990 - Page 2

The Committee considered a memo from Lynn Emerick, Director of the Marquette County Commission on Aging, regarding conference room space and costs in the new County Office Building. The current plan includes a proposal for a conference room of 816 sq. ft. on the second floor. It is planned that the Commission on Aging and the Cooperative Extension Service each pay 50% of the yearly rental costs of this space, or $8,878.00 total first year cost.

The Commission on Aging requests that the County consider funding this space in view that all departments of the County are in growing need of conference/training/meeting room space. In this way, space will be available to all County departments and not just limited to use by the Commission on Aging and the Cooperative Extension.

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, agrees that conference/training/meeting room space is a growing need and should be made available to all County departments and recommends concurrence with the Commission on Aging request.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Corkin, the Finance/Personnel Committee unanimously recommends the County Board provide for the use of the 816 sq. ft. conference/training/meeting room space in the new office building to be available for all departments and managed as a County function.

The Committee considered a request from William and Hazel Black, for relief from the County on the $8,800.00 mortgage on their home in Marquette Township, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Case #81-MT-13. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, was present and explained that the Blacks were recipients of one of approximately 50 housing rehabilitation loans made to qualifying low and moderate income persons whose homes have been identified as substandard and needing repair. William and Hazel Black were loaned $8,800.00 to repair the roof, windows, basement, and other miscellaneous items on their home. The loan was secured with a promissory note and mortgage filed with the Register of Deeds.

County records show that the Black’s housing rehabilitation project was completed on July 7, 1982, however Mr. Black complained about the performance of his roof repair. Ron Koshorek, Resource Management/Development Director, wrote to the contractor and asked him to arrange an equitable solution with Mr. Black, however this was not accomplished. Since then Mr. Black filed a complaint with the State Dept. of Licensing and Regulation, who in turn ordered the contractor to resolve the complaint; however, still nothing was done. Mr. Black has decided to repair the home himself, but is unable to obtain financing due to the $8,800.00 mortgage held by the County. In Ron Koshorek’s opinion, unless Mr. Black is released from his mortgage or additional monies are spent on the property, this house will be eliminated from the affordable housing stock in Marquette County.

Staff recommends that the County Board discharge the mortgage and obtain some sort of release of any future liability for repairs.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays, the Finance/Personnel Committee unanimously recommends the County Board forgive the
Finance/Personnel Committee Minutes
June 26, 1990 - Page 3

$8,800.00 loan in CDBG Case #81-MN-13, William and Hazel Black, contingent upon Mr. Black fixing the roof and absolving the County of any future liability.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, regarding the organization of Central Dispatch and the authorization of a Dispatcher position. Over the years the County Board has discussed many alternatives for the organization and operation of Central Dispatch. With the recent approval of the 911 millage, the need to redefine the organization of Central Dispatch again has become necessary. There will be an increased workload placed on the County during the implementation of the system, and an arrangement has been worked out with Lt. Skaja, Commander at the Michigan State Police Post in Negaunee Township. The Michigan State Police have agreed to and hired a Central Dispatch Coordinator. The Central Dispatch Coordinator is a State employee who works under the Post Commander and supervises the daily operation of Central Dispatch, and makes recommendations on necessary improvements. The coordinator and will also act as staff representative for the Central Dispatch Policy Board, thereby filling a void that has existed in this operation for many years.

The State Police created this coordinator position by upgrading a state dispatcher position and in return the County is proposing to replace this state dispatcher with another County dispatcher. The cost of this position will be $16,135.00 to $19,927.00 annually, however the annual costs will be significantly less for 1990 since we are already into the seventh month. The County has set aside from the millage approximately $100,000.00 in the Central Dispatch budget for the reorganization and implementation of the 911 System. Administrator Aloia recommends that the County Board authorize the establishment of the additional County Dispatcher position.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays, the Finance/-Personnel Committee unanimously recommends the County Board approve the establishment of an additional County Dispatcher position in the Central Dispatch budget, and that this position be funded from funds set aside in the Capital Outlay portion of the Central Dispatch budget.

The Committee considered a memo from Randell Girard, Director of Human Resources, regarding a request for an increase in per diem payments that was received from Court Jury Matrons. Court Jury Matrons are all former County employees, who are now retired, and are utilized on an as needed basis by the courts. Each court has a budgeted amount for this estimating the number of days needed at a current rate of $50.00 per day. They have not received an increase since the adoption of our classification and compensation system in 1981. The Circuit, District, and Probate Court Judges support the Jury Matron request.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays, the Finance/-Personnel Committee directed the request for a per diem increase for Court Jury Matrons to be considered during the 1991 budget process.
Finance/Personnel Committee Minutes
June 26, 1990 - Page 4

The Committee was presented an update from Randell Girard, Director of Human Resources, regarding the Health/Dental/Optical Insurance bid proposals. The Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) option has been considered by representatives from various departments and bargaining units, and Mr. Girard expects a recommendation at a future Finance/Personnel Committee meeting.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays, the Finance/Personnel Committee accepted the report for file.

The Committee considered a update on contractual staff service arrangements from Randell E. Girard, Director of Human Resources. Mr. Girard explained that concerns have recently surfaced regarding the consistency in the treatment of grant funded contractual employees with regard to their rate of pay, fringe benefits, and work conditions. At a previous Finance/Personnel Committee meeting Mr. Girard requested that the Committee consider reviewing contractual service arrangements to determine if it would be more appropriate that they be made regular County staff members. The Committee directed Mr. Girard to discuss the matter with the bargaining units.

Two out of three bargaining units said no; the Courthouse and the Health Dept. said they would not automatically accept the contractual employees into the bargaining unit and the positions would have to be posted. The Sheriff's Deputies said yes. By posting the positions the individuals currently holding the contractual service jobs could lose their jobs. Mr. Girard requested that the County Board authorize him to begin the development of a personnel policy and plan to consistently cover the contractual service employees regarding pay, benefits, and job descriptions.

The Committee would not like to see these contractual employees lose their jobs because of the posting process, however in the long run would like to see them made part of the regular County bargaining unit staff. It was suggested that over a period of time as these contractual positions becomes vacant, the plan include language to provide that the newly hired employee in these contractual positions be made part of the bargaining unit.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Corkin, the Finance/Personnel Committee unanimously recommends the County Board direct Staff to develop a personnel policy to cover contractual service employees, and further that the policy include the provision that when a vacancy occurs in these contractual positions, the new hires would be included in the County's bargaining unit classification and compensation system.

The Committee considered a memo from Randell Girard, Director of Human Resources, regarding an update on the Classification and Compensation System. The proposal is to rewrite existing position descriptions to accurately reflect current duties and responsibilities. The update would be conducted by J. Morley & Assoc. at a cost of approximately $12,400.00, and a time frame for completion of three months.

On a motion by Comm. Corkin, second by Comm. Bays the Finance/Personnel Committee directed Staff to present the Classification and Compensation System update proposal during the 1991 budget process.
Finance/Personnel Committee Minutes
June 26, 1990 - Page 5

The Committee considered a request from Ted Haara, Youth Home Supervisor, requesting authorization to spend an additional $360.00 for mattress pads, bedding, and covers, for the Youth Home. The Marquette County Youth Home has been allocated $3,000.00 from the 1990 Capital Outlay budget to replace 12 bed sets. They have spent five months negotiating with several furniture suppliers to obtain the most economical price, and as a result were able to purchase 12 bed sets for $2,300.00, resulting in a savings of $700.00. Mr. Haara would like authorization to use part of the remaining $700.00 for the mattress pads, bedding and covers.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Corkin, the Finance/Personnel Committee unanimously recommends the County Board approve the Youth Home request to spend an additional $360.00 from their Capital Outlay budget for the mattress pads, bedding and covers.

Chairperson Arsenault 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
FINANCE/PERSOENNEL COMMITTEE
Tuesday, June 26, 1990, 5:45 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.
6. A memo from James F. Sodergren, Marquette County Treasurer, regarding loans to Little Shag Lake & Whetstone Brook Drainage District projects.
8. Conference Room Space and Costs in the New County Office Building.
10. Authorization of Dispatcher Position for Central Dispatch.
13. Update on Contractual Staff. (No packet materials).
15. Suggestion by Roger Eaves about second home.
16. 
17. 
18. PUBLIC COMMENT.
19. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
20. ADJOURNMENT.