The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, January 9, 1990 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


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

There were no minutes to approve.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Bays and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved with the following Late Addition; item 11) A request from the Fair Board for an EDC Loan.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. De Fant and unanimously carried that Claims and Accounts for the period December 20, 1989 thru January 4, 1990 in the amount of $496,893.53 be approved.

The Committee considered a memo from James F. Sodergren, County Treasurer, regarding various drainage district loans. Mr. Sodergren reported that the interest accumulation on the Little Shag Lake and the Whetstone Drainage District now amounts to $44,883.93.

Marquette County Drain Commissioner, Darryll Sundberg, was present to update the status on these drainage districts. Mr. Sundberg reported that the County will recapture the monies advanced, plus interest, for the Badger Creek and the Whetstone Drainage Districts. However, Mr. Sundberg was not so sure about Little Shag Lake. The decision whether or not to establish the Little Shag Lake level is still forthcoming from Circuit Court Judge Jason. Should the Judge rule against establishing a Little Shag Lake level, the monies borrowed from the tax delinquent revolving fund may be lost. If the Judge rules in favor of establishing a Little Shag Lake level, there will be no problem.

Civil Counsel, David Payant, was present and pointed out that should the Judge rule against establishing a legal lake level for Little Shag Lake, because the Marquette County Board initiated the process, the County may have to bear the costs of the lake study. Mr. Payant and Drain Commissioner Sundberg indicated that such situations could be avoided in the future, by requiring the petitioners or units of government, requesting a drainage district or legal lake level, to pay the upfront costs. Drain Commissioner Sundberg reported that the number of drainage districts in Marquette County are increasing, and so are their costs, therefore it may be wise for the County to require upfront funding in the future.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. De Fant and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole direct Staff and Drain Sundberg to develop a plan for financing drainage districts, and the establishment of legal lake levels.

The Committee considered a memo from Sheriff, Joseph Maino, regarding Patrol Car Bids. Undersheriff, Michael Quayle, was present and explained that only one bid was received for Sheriff’s Dept. Patrol Cars from Superior Ford for three patrol vehicles, and two bids were received for the lease of a 4-wheel drive vehicle, one from Specker Motor Sales, and one from Nelson Chevrolet. Undersheriff Quayle indicated he made the effort to contact various automobile dealers in Marquette County, however all were reluctant to bid except for Superior Ford. At one time Chrysler Corp. had cornered the market on police patrol vehicles, however they no longer market the type of vehicle required.

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, distributed a recommendation to the Committee. Because only one bid was received, Administrator Aloia recommended purchasing Sheriff patrol vehicles through State Purchasing. A savings of $4,911.39 would be realized. This would allow the purchase of the vehicles within the budgeted price of $43,500.00, and also provide enough funds to have the vehicles painted with approximately $1,500.00 left
Administrator Aloia further recommended the County Board award the lease vehicle bid for Emergency Services to the low bidder, Specker Motor Sales.

It was moved by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Seppanen and carried three ayes to one Nay, with Comm. Bays voting nay, that the Committee of the Whole recommends that County Board lease the 4 x 4 1990 GMC Suburban from Specker Motor Sales at a monthly rate of $404.00, and that the County Board authorize the purchase of three Sheriff patrol car vehicles through State Purchasing at a cost of $13,837.87 each.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Bays and unanimously carried that the Committee place on file a Memorandum of Understanding dated December 12, 1989 from Governor James J. Blanchard regarding the Proposed Legislative Consolidation of Services to Children and Families.

Chairperson Corkin reported that a representative of the Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners spoke to him regarding the possibility of holding their 1990 meeting in Marquette. Chairperson Corkin indicated to the Committee of the Whole that he is willing to work on the local details. It was moved by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Seppanen and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole happily agree to host the UPACC Meeting in Marquette.

Charles W. Hohman, Airport Manager, was present to review the 1989 Year-end Airport Fund Balance and Project Update, along with various requests for use of the fund balance. The 1989 year-end fund balance will be approximately $45,000.00. Charles Hohman requested that an appraisal update be added to the County contract for this summer, at a cost of $5,500.00, and that the installation of heating, ventilation, air-conditioning units (HVAC) for the terminal rental space, at a cost of $10,000.00 per unit be installed. Simmons desires to move their personnel from the County Service Center to the Airport, and are requesting to lease between 4,000 – 5,000 sq. ft.

County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, explained that some related negotiations are taking place between himself, the EDC, and the Airport, regarding a possible move by the EDC to the Airport Terminal. Administrator Aloia did not plan to discuss the proposal at this time, but the request by Charles Hohman necessitates bringing the subject up. Administrator Aloia estimates the cost of moving the EDC to the Service Center at $40,000.00. The EDC is willing to split the cost between themselves and the County, and part of the County’s $20,000.00 cost would come from the installation of one of the $10,000.00 HVAC units, the remaining $10,000.00 would come from the Airport fund balance. The Committee felt it more important at this time, to make the Airport Terminal space rentable, and consider the EDC request separately.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. DeFant and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the request from Charles Hohman, Airport Manager, on behalf of the Airport Committee, to approve the Lloyd Thomas Appraisal Contract at a cost of $5,500.00, and the installation of two HVAC units at a total cost of $20,000.00, with funds to be taken from the 1989 Airport Fund Balance, and further should the EDC request to move into the Airport, they must come up with $20,000.00 of their own funding, and the County will then secure the remaining $20,000.00 in funding, which would include $10,000.00 for one of the HVAC units.

Airport Manager, Charles Hohman, continued with his report on the 1990 Airport Improvement Project. Mr. Hohman reported that the FAA would like to do a multi-year project (three years), due to a lack of entitlement funds. The Airport Committee therefore requests that the County Board approve the 1990 pre-application with a local share of $3,750.00, but allow the Airport to retain the $50,000.00 CIP fund balance, plus interest, for the remainder of the project.
It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. DeFant and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the request to submit the 1990 pre-application, with a local share at this time of $3,750.00 and retain the (1990 CIP) fund balance (for the project remainder), and authorize the County Board Chairperson to sign the 1990 AIP pre-application after administrative and legal review.

Charles Hohman, Airport Manager, reviewed a proposal for an Airport Fuel Farm. In 1989, all the Airport tanks were tested and inspected. Many of the tanks are over 25 years old and should be replaced. Mr. Hohman proposed that by working through the present distributor, a new state-of-the-art fuel facility could be installed at an estimated cost of between $150,000.00 and $175,000.00. This would be funded by a loan, and paid back through a service charge of 3 to 4 cents per gallon. Historical sales data shows that this would generate $30,000.00 to $40,000.00 a year, with the project being amortized over a ten year period. The present fuel facilities at the County Airport were funded in this manner, as were the new airport fuel facilities in Petoskey.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. DeFant and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Airport Fuel Farm Plan in concept, authorizing the Manager to proceed with the agreement for future contract approval by the County Board.

The Committee of the Whole considered a request from the Marquette County Fair Board for additional funding, perhaps through a loan. Administrator Aloia reported that the Fair Board has received a $222,000.00 grant from the State of Michigan, however they must provide an additional $30,000.00 in local matching funds to receive the grant. Administrator Aloia suggests several options: The monies could be loaned from the tax delinquent revolving fund, a bank loan, or an EDC revolving fund loan.

It was moved by Comm. Bays, seconded by Comm. DeFant and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole direct the Fair Board to request the $30,000.00 loan from the EDC through the revolving EDC loan fund.

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

There being no further business to come from 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, January 9, 1990, 5:30 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Courthouse 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, County Treasurer, regarding Drainage District loans.
8. A Memorandum of Understanding from Governor James Blanchard regarding proposed legislative action to consolidate Children and Family Services.
11. [Handwritten note: "EC: Loan Request from"]
12. [Handwritten note: ""]
13. PUBLIC COMMENT.
14. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
15. ADJOURNMENT.