The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, August 28, 1990 at 6:45 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skews Annex, Marquette, MI.


On a motion by Comm. ArsenaULT, second by Comm. Defant, the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on August 14, 1990 were unanimously approved.

Comm. Seppanen opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

On a motion by Comm. ArsenaULT, second by Comm. Defant, the agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Defant, Claims and Accounts for the period August 10, 1990 through August 23, 1990, in the amount of $570,904.94 were unanimously approved.

The Committee considered the Post Census Local Review showing the preliminary housing unit and group quarter population counts for Marquette County. The preliminary population figure of Marquette County is 70,532 as compared to 74,101 in 1980. The letter from the Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census, further states that the Census Bureau will only accept challenges to the housing unit and group quarters population counts at the census block level. The population count figures cannot be directly challenged. A special form is provided and local units of government must respond within 15 working days of receiving their Post Census Local Review Report.

County Commissioners were concerned at the drop in Marquette County's population; however, each township and each city will have the opportunity to challenge the housing units and group population quarter counts in their municipality. Marquette County received its report on August 20, 1990, and has until September 11, 1990 to submit challenges.

On a motion by Comm. Defant, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board direct the County Clerk to survey the Group Quarter Population Counts throughout Marquette County and respond by September 11, 1990 with the appropriate challenges.

The Committee considered a request from Charles Bergdahl, President, Marquette County Fair, for a loan to alleviate cash flow problems. Mr. Bergdahl was present and explained that the construction of the four buildings, including an exhibition building, utility building, 4-H and youth building, and livestock building, was done faster than anticipated. Because of the County support, community support, a large number of volunteers, and support from a number of private individuals and businesses, the Fair Board has made remarkable progress and is far ahead of schedule. Many of the contractors have not demanded payment, but Mr. Bergdahl feels that they deserve to be paid as soon as possible. Michigan Dept. of Agriculture grants will not be available until the next fiscal year. The Fair Board could then repay its loans from its fair receipts, winter storage receipts, future grants, and contributions. A major fund raiser will be scheduled during the winter months.

The County Board was very pleased and impressed with the development at the fairgrounds, and felt the Marquette County Fair should continue to receive some County support, the goal being the Fair's financial independence.

On a motion by Comm. Defant, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board establish a $100,000.00 loan account for the Fair Board, the funds for the account to be provided from the Tax Delinquent Revolving Fund, contingent upon availability; and further, that the funds drawn by the Fair Board will be subject to approval of the Finance/Personnel Committee, and shall be repaid at the prevailing interest rate with the deadline for repayment to be September 15, 1991.
The Committee considered a letter from Ann Trudell, Secretary of Superior Shores Systems, Inc., which is requesting a letter of support for the Superior Shores Systems to actively pursue grants to develop a winter recreation and trail support program. No representative from Superior Shores Systems, Inc. was present to discuss the grant application. On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole tabled the request until the next Executive/IGR Committee meeting, and directed staff to seek more information and request Ms. Trudell to be present at that meeting.

The Committee considered a request from John Beerling, Supt./Engr., Marquette County Road Commission, for a resolution of support for a new access road off of U.S. 41 to the Michigan Iron Industry Museum. The Marquette County Road Commission is writing an application for an economic development grant to finance the engineering and construction of the road, which would hopefully increase the number of visitors to the museum.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board support the Marquette County Road Commission in their application for an economic development grant for the new access road off U.S. 41 to the Michigan Iron Industry Museum.

The Committee considered a letter from Charles Manto, EDC Director, requesting a resolution from the County Board confirming that a portion of the funds being used as local match funds is under the decision making authority for approval of loans by the EDC. Mr. Manto was not present; however, Administrator Aloia explained that the present language in the agreement between Marquette County and the EDC says that the County retains authority over the revolving loan fund, and Mr. Manto would like the EDC designated as the authority. Administrator Aloia does not know all the particulars and suggested the Committee seek more information from Mr. Manto.

The Committee considered a request from the Marquette County Commission on Aging for a certification resolution from Marquette County indicating their commitments to a ten year lease/use in the new County Office Building by the Commission on Aging. Lynn Emerick, Director of the Commission on Aging, was present and explained that they are applying for an Unmet Needs Grant through Rep. Jacobetti which provides funds for renovation of senior centers, and the new County Office Building may possibly qualify. They will be applying for $50,000; however, the usual grant is in the range of $15,000. These funds would be over-and-above the rent that the Commission on Aging has already agreed to pay.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board provide the certification resolution for the Commission on Aging grant application indicating a ten year commitment to lease/use of the new County Office Building space by the Commission on Aging.

The Committee considered a request from Patrick R. Moran, Director, Six County Consortium, for a check in the amount of $83.34. The previous director had a disallowed expenditure amounting to $500. The Six County Consortium for Employment and Training Administrative Board, comprised of County Commissioners, took action approving reimbursement to cover the disallowed cost; however, it must be divided equally between the six counties forming the Consortium.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board forward a check for $83.34 to the Six County Consortium to be taken from the contingency account.

The Committee considered an advertising agreement from the Marquette County 4-H Council for a full page ad costing $800 in the Plat Book. The money earned from plat book sales provides for partial or full
scholarships for local 4-H members, leadership training, youth programs, 4-H camps, and citizenship programs. Marquette County has purchased the full page ad in the past several plat books. In return the County receives 32 free plat books which are worth $25 each.

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board approve of the advertising agreement for a full page in the Marquette County Plat Book.

The Committee considered a memo from George Wright, Facilities Manager, regarding the Annex Air Conditioning Compressor Failure Investigation. The County has received a response from Air Conditioning Refrigeration Corporation (ACR), a maintenance management consulting engineering firm from Green Bay to do diagnostic work and provide the County with a written report on their findings and recommendation. ACR is a well known company and works in the Marquette County area.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board approve the hiring of Air Conditioning Refrigeration Corporation as the consulting firm for a fee of not to exceed $1,800.00, with funds to be taken from the Resource Management Administration Professional/Contractual Services line item.

Comm. Seppanen opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

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, August 28, 1990, 6:45 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. 1990 Census Data
7. Loan request from County Fair Board.
8. Request from Superior Shore Systems, Inc. regarding "Recreation and Trail Support" program.
9. Request for support of new access road off U.S. 41.
10. Request from EDC regarding authority for Revolving Loan Fund approval.
11. Commission on Aging requests certification resolution regarding Use of Jacks IGA Building.
12. Request for payment of pro-rated disallowed charges of the JTPA program.
13. Request for Sponsorship of Plat Book Ad.

15.

16.

17.

18. PUBLIC COMMENT.
19. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
20. ADJOURNMENT.