The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, July 10, 1990 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.


On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Bays, the minutes of the June 26, 1990 Finance/Personnel Committee and the Executive/IGR Committee meetings were approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Wes Larson, Director, Marquette County Townships Association, thanked the County Board for dissolving the Marquette County Water & Sewer Authority, and also explained that he is here to answer any questions regarding the animal control resolution under item 8). There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously approved the agenda with the following addition; item 6a) a resolution regarding the feasibility of a FAA Contract Tower at the Marquette County Airport.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously approved claims and accounts for the period June 22, 1990 through July 6, 1990 in the amount of $6,849,914.46.

The Committee considered a 1987 Airport Improvement Project (AIP) Grant Amendment. Charles Hohman, Airport Manager, was present and explained that the 1987 AIP Project consisted of additional ramp paving in support of both general and commercial aviation; however, the pavement suffered some deformation shortly after installation and payment was withheld until further testing was performed. The testing confirmed that the design mix met specifications; however the additional cost of this testing resulted in a cost overrun of $4,471.16, requiring the grant amendment.

Mr. Hohman requested that the funds be taken from the Airport Improvement Project budget monies for 1990 because not all of these funds will be expended. Then at the end of the year, the AIP funds can be reimbursed from the Airport’s fund balance.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends that the County Board approve the 1987 AIP Grant Amendment in the amount of $4,471.16.

The Committee considered a resolution presented by Charles Hohman, Airport Manager, which would authorize the Marquette County Airport Committee to investigate the feasibility of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Contract Tower, and also to hire a consultant to compile the necessary documentation for FAA approval and funding. Mr. Hohman was present and explained that such a tower would be a step-up from the Flight Service Station. Mr. Hohman could not estimate the cost of the tower project; however, did estimate the consultant to cost approximately $5,000.00. He is confident that this cost would be part of the Air Layout Plan Update (ALP). The resolution does not commit the County Board of Commissioners to the tower project at this time, but is just a preliminary step in investigating its feasibility.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board adopt the resolution authorizing the Airport Committee to investigate the feasibility of a FAA Contract Tower.

The Committee considered a Bureau of History Grant Loan Request from Charles L. Manto, Executive Director of the Marquette County EDC. Packet materials submitted by Mr. Manto explained the cashflow needs of the EDC in reference to the Michigan Bureau of History Grant, which was signed by the
State on June 27, 1990. The EDC requests a loan from the County in order to
cover project expenses in the amount of $22,000.00, to be paid back as soon
as the EDC is reimbursed by the State.

Commissioners had questions for Mr. Manto; however, he was not present.
On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of
the Whole unanimously tabled the loan request until the next
Finance/Personnel Committee on July 24, 1990.

The Committee considered a resolution from the Marquette County
Townships Association requesting that a millage proposal be placed before
Marquette County voters to help finance animal control. Wes Larson,
Director of the MCTA, was present and pointed out that animal control has
been a topic of discussion among the townships for twenty years. Presenting
a millage to the voters would be a good first step in solving the problem.
He added that the Humane Society is only a part of the County-wide animal
control issue.

During the Committee discussion Administrator Aloia estimated a total
of $150,000.00 is currently being spent by the County, the cities, and some
townships on animal control. A concern among Commissioners was that a
County-wide millage would be a duplication of funding for many of the
taxpayers. Many questions remain unanswered, and a study committee was
suggested by Chairperson Corkin. The study committee would survey all
twenty-two units of government, update information previously compiled
regarding animal control, survey other counties that may have successful
animal control programs, and also investigate possible funding available
from outside sources.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of
the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board form an Animal Control
Study Committee, to study the issue thoroughly and make recommendations, the
committee to be made up of four elected officials as follows: the Marquette
County Sheriff, a member of the Townships Association, a member from a City
Council, and one County Commissioner.

The Committee considered a request for a partial discharge of mortgage
by Louis & Donna Beaudin, mortgagees of property in Trowbridge Park, and
recipients of a County Housing Rehabilitation Loan. The Beaudin's own a
large parcel of property and want to sell part of it. They request that the
County discharge its mortgage interest on a 30 x 135 ft. strip along the
east edge of lot 709. The remaining property would still have the
rehabilitated house on it, and the County would still recoup its $9,500.00
mortgage if lot 709 were sold.

The 30 ft. strip from lot 709 would then become part of lot 708, and
both lots would be 90 ft. wide along Cherry Street in Trowbridge Park.
Staff recommends the request be honored.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of
the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve of the request for
the partial discharge of mortgage for the 30 x 135 ft. strip of lot 709.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Ron Koshorek, Resource
Management/Development Director, regarding the compressor failure and
replacement. The memo recommends insuring against future extraordinary
compressor expense, by purchasing a four-year extended warranty offered by
Trane for $3,415.00. After the first year the warranty would not cover
labor.

George Wright, Facilities Manager, was present to answer questions and
discuss the air conditioning compressor failure and replacement with the
Committee. The cause of the slug of liquid in the compressor piston which
resulted in its failure has not yet been determined. Commissioners were
more concerned about pinpointing the cause rather than purchasing a
warranty. If it can be determined that mechanical failure was the primary
cause, it is possible that the County could receive insurance monies.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of
the Whole unanimously tabled the recommendation regarding the replacement
compressor warranty, and directed Administrator Aloia to seek expert
consultation and cost estimates for studying and determining the cause of
the compressor failure, for consideration at a future Committee meeting.
The Committee considered development of a personnel policy to cover contractual service employees. Administrator, Dennis Aloia, spoke with Jacki Lykins, Courthouse Union Chairperson, and the union would welcome these contractual positions; however, they must be posted and bid. County Commissioners do not want the present contractual employees to lose their jobs because of the bidding process. The Courthouse Union did seem receptive; however, to the suggestion that as the contractual positions become vacant, that the positions be posted and the newly hired employees be made part of the bargaining unit.

The Committee felt they would like to see the policy drafted first before voting on it. Therefore, on a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously voted that the Contractual Service Employees Policy be drafted and reviewed by Civil Counsel, and brought back to Committee for further consideration.

The Committee considered a memo from Randell Girard, Director of Human Resources, regarding the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988. The act takes effect on July 24, 1990 and requires contractors and grantees of federal agencies to certify that they will provide, or will continue to provide, drug free work places. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, was present and explained that from now on this will be a necessary condition for Marquette County to receive a contract or federal grant. Marquette County receives approximately 50 federal grants per year.

Mr. Girard is in the process of drafting the required policy statements and notices of compliance as required by the Drug Free Work Place Act. The draft policy statements should be ready for review by the Finance/Personnel Committee at their July 24, 1990 meeting; however, to assure that Marquette County is in compliance with the act on July 24th, he requests that the Committee of the Whole support adoption of the Certification Regarding Drug Free Workplace Requirements.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, second by Comm. Seppanen, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board adopt the Certification Regarding Drug Free Workplace Requirements.

The Committee considered reimbursement to County Treasurer, James Sodergren, for two air conditioners which Mr. Sodergren purchased and were used in the Treasurer’s Office in 1989. The two 5,000 BTU air conditioners are estimated to be worth approximately $250.00 each.

On a motion by Comm. Seppanen, second by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board reimburse County Treasurer, James Sodergren, for the two 5,000 BTU air conditioners at $250.00 each.

Chairperson Corkin 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
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, July 10, 1990, 5:00 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FINANCE/PERSOONEL COMMITTEE and EXECUTIVE/IGR COMMITTEE meetings held on June 26, 1990.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

5. Review of Claims and Accounts.

6. 1987 Airport Improvement Project Grant Amendment. (No packet materials. Airport Manager, Charles Hohman will be present).


8. Resolution from Marquette County Township Assoc. regarding animal control millage.


10. Recommendation from Ron Koshorek, Director, Resource Management/Development Dept., regarding air conditioner compressor failure and replacement.

11. Contractual Services Employee Policy.

12. Policy regarding certification of a drug free work place for grant requirements. (No packet materials).

13. Air conditioner reimbursement for Treasurer’s Office.

14.

15.

16.

17. PUBLIC COMMENT.

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

19. ADJOURNMENT.