The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, November 13, 1990, at 5:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Bays, and Comm. Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. DeFant and Comm. Seppanen.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the agenda was unanimously approved with the following additions: item 19) a budget amendment request from Ron Koshorek, Director, Resource Management/-Development Dept., for a septic system at the Old Acocks Facility; and item 20) an update on the Air Access Program.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, Claims and Accounts for the period October 20, 1990 thru November 9, 1990, in the amount of $1,427,847.63, were unanimously approved.

The Committee considered a petition from Sands Township Citizens for a 4-way stop/-flashing red light at the intersection of Co. Rd. 553 and Co. Rd. 480. Earl Yelle, Sands Township Supervisor, was in attendance and stated the township residents are requesting the installation of the light in lieu of the rumble strips. Sands Township has offered to pay 50% of the cost of the light and urged the County Board to intercede on their behalf with the Marquette County Road Commission. John Beerling, Supt./Engr., Marquette County Road Commission, stated that a study has been conducted and both the Highway Dept. and the Michigan State Police have been consulted regarding the installation of a 4-way stop/flashing red light at Co. Rd. 553 and Co. Rd. 480, and although traffic is very heavy on these rural roads there is no evidence that a light will increase the safety factor at this intersection.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board authorize staff to send a letter to the Marquette County Road Commission urging them to consider the request and to accept the offer from Sands Township to pay 50% of the cost and maintenance for the installation of a 4-way stop/flashing red light at the Co. Rd. 480 and Co. Rd. 553 intersection.

The Committee took under consideration support of House Bill 4991, a bill to amend the Mine Inspectors Act. Mr. William Maki, Marquette County Mine Inspector, was in attendance and urged the Committee to support the enactment of this bill which will amend the act to allow the Mine Inspector to enter the non-ferrous mines and quarry operations to ensure that safe conditions exist for all employees. The proposed act would also protect the local communities safety and health.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board send a letter of support of House Bill 4991, a bill to amend the Mine Inspectors Act, to our State Legislators and include a copy of support letters received by Marquette County.

The Committee considered an EDC Loan Default Policy. Chairperson Corkin stated that he has met with Administrator, Dennis Aloia, EDC Director, Charles Manto, and officials, and an acceptable policy has been drafted. Civil Counsel, David Payant, explained that the policy presented details the responsibility of the EDC to collect proceeds from grants in default with an extended amount of time allowable to debtors.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board adopt the proposed EDC Loan Default Policy.

The Committee considered a request from the Marquette County Retirees Chapter 113 of AFSCME for the adoption of Retirement Benefit Program E-1, which provides for an annual cost of living increase of up to 2-1/2% of the annual cost of living index. Marjorie A. Seymour, spokesperson for the

MSS176_27_26_001.tif

group thanked the County Board for the increase granted last year; however, the E-1 Rider would alleviate the necessity of the group to come back annually, or every few years requesting a raise.

Randell Girard, Human Resources Director, was in attendance to answer questions regarding the E-1 Rider and stated clarification is needed regarding the formation of a retirees chapter of AFSCME.

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, recommended that a meeting be set up with the local union representatives, staff and members of the retirees group to clarify the present status of the unit.

No action was taken at this time.

The Committee considered a memo from James Sodergren, County Treasurer, regarding PILT payments on federal lands stating that PILT payments amount to approximately .75/acre. Senate Bill 3128 is suggesting an increase of PILT payments to counties with federal tax-exempt lands, and an increase in those payments is long overdue. The State of Michigan is paying $2.50/acre. An increase in PILT payments would improve the stability of the economy in many counties in the U.P., and should not have a severe impact on the federal budget.

Leonard Angeli, Marquette County Resident and Business Owner, stressed the fact that some of the best recreation property in Marquette County is owned by the Federal Government and no taxes are being paid. He feels this an injustice to the tax payer.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board support the proposed PILT Legislation.

The Committee took under consideration a proposed DSS Facility Inspection Fee. Dr. Randall Johnson, M.D., Director, Marquette County Health Dept., explained that until recently, local health departments were reimbursed through the Michigan Dept. of Public Health for time spent in conducting mandatory inspections at facilities licensed by Michigan Dept. of Social Services, such as foster homes, child care facilities, children camps, etc. These funds expired on September 30, 1990; however, the regulatory statutes and rules still require sanitation inspections of these facilities prior to licensure. The Board of Health is recommending that a per hour fee of $57.32 be established to cover actual costs. The system would be implemented as follows:

1) The Michigan Dept. of Social Services makes a request that a DSS facility sanitation inspection be performed.
2) Staff perform the requested inspection and keep track of all direct and support time expended in doing the inspection and completing the required report.
3) The facility is issued a bill equal to the number of hours spent in providing the inspection service multiplied by the approved MDPH hourly rate.
4) The facility pays the department the indicated inspection fee.
5) The department then releases the inspection report to the Michigan Dept. of Social Services allowing licensure to occur.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board concur with the Board of Health recommendation.

The Committee considered Health Dept. 1990 budget amendment #4 increasing the budget from $2,506,078 to $2,651,870, and various program expenditure and revenue adjustments. The amendment reflects the impact of a variety of revenue and expenditure changes that have occurred during the course of the year.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board adopt a resolution amending the County Health Fund Budget.

MSS176_27_26_01.tif

The Committee took under consideration the 911 Agreement between Marquette County and Michigan Bell Telephone Company. David Payant, Civil Counsel, stated that there are still minor adjustments to be made to the agreement, and requested a few more days to complete their review. Both Civil Counsel and Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, assured the Committee the delay will have no affect on the implementation of the system. No action was taken.

The Committee took under consideration the addition of PEBSCO as a second deferred compensation program for Marquette County employees. Randell Girard, Director of Human Resources, explained that participants in a County Deferred Compensation Plan generally fall into two groups: 1) Participants who have a long term view of their investments and adopt a conservative investment strategy that emphasizes guaranteed investments; 2) Participants who want to monitor their accounts closely, invest primarily in variable funds and actively trade their accounts.

Wyatt Asset Services was retained by the County of Marquette to conduct a comparison of funding arrangements for the County's deferred compensation plan. Their findings showed that the ICMA program presently active for County employees is the most advantageous for the conservation long term investors and PEBSCO is most advantageous for the short term investor.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board add PEBSCO as a second deferred compensation program for Marquette County employees.

The Committee considered an update on the Little Shag Lake Water Level Project. David Payant, Civil Counsel, explained that the County Board has three options in regard to terminating the project: 1) Request Circuit Court Judge, Raymond J. Jason, to set a special assessment to capture the County loss; 2) The County Board establish a special assessment district; and 3) The County absorb the loss.

$40,000 was loaned to the project in August of 1986 from the Tax Delinquent Revolving Fund, and accumulated interest to date amounts to $15,338.85. James Sodergren, Marquette County Treasurer, has requested that a determination be made before year end so that the deficit plan can be accommodated in the 1990 audit.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board forgive the loan and return unused loan to the tax delinquent fund.

The Committee considered a Family Support Division Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract Application for 1991 to the Michigan Dept. of Social Services for approval of a proposal to provide services in accordance with the approved Title IV-D state plan to establish paternity, secure support orders, and enforce support orders.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board approve the Family Support Division Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract Application.

The Committee considered a contract application for the Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Plan.

On a motion by Comm. Bays, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board approve the contract application for the Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Program.

The Committee considered a resolution recognizing the U.P. Whitetails Association, Inc. for its past efforts on behalf of the County Whitetail Population, and extend its best wishes and support for its projects in the future.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Corkin, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board adopt a resolution recognizing the U.P. Whitetails Association, Inc.

MSS176_27_26_02.tif

The Committee considered a request from Ron Koshorek, Director, Resource Management/Development Dept., for a budget amendment in the amount of $1,200 to allow for the construction of a septic system at the Old Acocks Building. Since operating the Old Acocks Facility at a reduced level, it has been found that the sewage lagoon is not receiving sufficient flow to function properly. It would also be necessary to obtain a Sewage Treatment Plant Operators License for an employee in order to continue utilizing the lagoon. Therefore, it will be more cost effective to install a septic tank and leaching field rather than continue to use the lagoon.

Construction of the septic system will cost approximately $3,800. There is approximately $2,700 left in uncommitted funds from the 4-C's project, and Mr. Koshorek requests the additional $1,200 needed to be taken from the fund balance in the Community Development Fund.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommended the County Board adopt the appropriate budget amendment to allow for the construction of the septic system at the Old Acocks Facility.

The Committee took under consideration an Update on the Air Access Program. Charles Hohman, Airport Manager, James Alderton, Board Member, and Representatives from the Michigan Aeronautics Association, were in attendance to answer any questions the Committee may have regarding the new air service being proposed and summarized contracts, bids, subsidies, economic benefits, anticipated costs, average fares and the use of pressurized airplanes which will be more comfortable and provide better service. The Committee requested the Airport Committee to provide them with a summary sheet of the project for review. No action was taken.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee unanimously voted to go into Closed Session to discuss pending labor negotiations.

Chairperson Corkin declared a brief recess to clear the meeting room.

Due to an emergency of one of the Commissioners, and lack of a quorum, no closed session was held.

There being no further business to come before the Committee the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. O'Neill

Margaret A. O'Neill
Deputy County Clerk

MSS176_27_26_03.tif

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, November 13, 1990, 5:00 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. Petition from Sands Township Citizens for a four-way stop light at the intersection of Co. Rd. 553 and Co. Rd. 480.
7. House Bill 4991: A bill to amend the Mine Inspectors Act.
8. EDC Loan Default Policy.
9. A request from the Marquette County Retirees Chapter 113 of AFSCME for the adoption of benefit program E-1.
10. A memo from James Sodergren, County Treasurer, regarding PILT payments on federal lands.
11. Proposed DSS Facility Inspection Fees.
12. Health Dept. 1990 Budget Amendment #4.
13. 911 Agreement between Marquette County and Michigan Bell Telephone Company. (No packet materials).
14. Consideration of PEBSCO as a second Deferred Compensation Program.
15. Update on the Little Shag Lake Water Level Project.
16. Family Support Division Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract for 1991.
17. Contract application for the Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Prevention Program.
18. Resolution recognizing the U.P. Whitetails Association, Inc.
19. Request for BA (Old Acocks)
20. Airport report
21. PUBLIC COMMENT.
22. CLOSED SESSION regarding Labor Negotiations.
23 ANNOUNCEMENTS.
24. ADJOURNMENT.

MSS176_27_26_04.tif