The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, December 11, 1990, at 5:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.


On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on November 27, 1990, were unanimously approved.

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

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the agenda was unanimously approved with the following late additions: item 17) Sheriff's Dept. Road Patrol Contract; item 18) Additional Nominations for Various County Boards and Commissions; and item 19) Dept. of Social Services Lease for County Office Space.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bays, Claims and Accounts for the period November 20, 1990 thru December 6, 1990, in the amount of $1,633,822.95, were unanimously approved.

The Committee considered the Year-end Budget Review and the General Fund Financial Condition Projection Report from Gary Yoder, Finance Manager. Mr. Yoder was present and explained that overall estimated revenues and transfers increased by $137,489.00, while estimated expenditures increased by $120,805. The difference between the two factors combined to make a favorable fund balance of $16,604.

Mr. Yoder also recommended the budget amendments for the General Fund, Soldiers/Sailors Relief, Economic Development, County U.P.S.E.T., Rescue Safety, Land Acquisition, Victim Restitution, Employment Programs, Social Services Child Care, Social Services, Veterans Trust, Commission on Aging, and basic grant funds to be approved by the Committee of the Whole for recommendation to the County Board.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board accept the General Fund Financial Condition Projection Report and approve the appropriate budget amendments as presented by the Finance Manager.

The Committee was presented an oral report from Comm. Arsenault regarding the Air Access Program. Comm. Arsenault recently attended a meeting and felt the discussion was mostly of negatives. Comm. Arsenault made an attempt to focus on the positive aspects of the State's plan to subsidize Great Lakes Aero to provide service to Lansing. Detailed information will be forthcoming and available to Commissioners from Great Lakes Aero in the near future. Chairperson Corkin thanked Comm. Arsenault for his report.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, regarding the Dept. of Social Services lease for County Office Space. Mr. Aloia reported that the County is currently being paid $6.54 per square foot for BSS space for 1990, and will pay approximately $6.50 per square foot in 1991, which generates approximately $87,000 in rent per year. The development of the Spring Street Annex Building has made County Staff aware of the rents being charged in the downtown Marquette area, which are currently in the $11.00 to $13.00 range. The County will lease the Spring Street Annex Building at $10.88 per square foot. It is therefore difficult justifying rent on to a State agency at the rate of $6.50 per square foot.

Administrator Aloia recommends that the County Board immediately request the Dept. of Social Services to pay $10.88 per square foot, and that this rate be continued through 1991, with an annual increase of 3% for
inflation. This will keep the contract in line with lease contracts for office space at the Spring Street Annex should BSS not be willing to pay the increased rate. Mr. Aloia recommends that the County Board consider terminating their contract at the end of the lease period in April of 1992. Administrator Aloia believes this request to be justified and fair.

Nancy DeWees, Director, Marquette Dept. of Social Services, was present and read a prepared statement listing sixteen reasons why the Marquette County Dept. of Social Services should continue to be located in the Courthouse Annex. In summary, Director DeWees hopes that the County would enter any negotiations for a new lease with the DSS facilities management and DMB in the spirit of cooperation and a sincere desire to come to an agreement.

Administrator Aloia is aware that the County could not raise its rates, nor terminate the lease with DSS at this time. He wants the County Board and the Dept. of Social Services to be aware of the situation so that negotiations could begin well in advance of April, 1992. Before any new lease contract is agreed upon or terminated, Administrator Aloia assured the County Board that they will have to make the final decision.

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board immediately request the Dept. of Social Services to pay a lease rate of $10.88 per square foot, with that rate to be continued through 1991, which would include an annual increase of 3% for inflation; and in the event that DSS is not willing to pay this increased amount, it is further recommended the contract be terminated at the end of its term in April of 1992, and further that Administrator Aloia begin negotiations with the Dept. of Social Services.

The Committee considered a letter of intent to construct a control tower at the Marquette County Airport. If the FAA approves and agrees to participate with the County with this endeavor they will pay the operational costs, but not the construction costs which are estimated to be $150,000. Commissioners were concerned that if the letter of intent was adopted as is, and the FAA approved the project, the County would have to pay the construction costs. Comm. DeFant explained that Charles Hoehman, Airport Manager, has indicated that the Michigan Aeronautics Commission will financially support the construction of this project. The tower would become more essential as future air travel increases, especially should the Marquette County Airport become a mini hub. Should the Flight Service Station be closed down, and Marquette County is not approved for an auxiliary flight service station, then the control tower is very essential.

The Commission consensus was to approve the letter of intent with the following additional wording to be inserted into paragraph three, "once the decision by the FAA has been made to fund the operational costs, and construction costs have been secured, the County will start construction of the facility to coincide with the FAA operational funding."

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Arsenaault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board adopt the amended letter of intent.

The Committee considered a progress payment for the Health Dept. Remodelling Project. A memo from Ron Roshorek, Director, Resource Management/Development Dept., indicates that the payment should be paid. The project Architect, David Forester, recommends its approval and so does Staff.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenaault, seconded by Comm. Bays, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the progress payment for the Health Dept. remodelling project, in the amount of $28,620.

The Committee considered Change Order #2, Health Dept. Remodelling Project. The County Management Team recommends a change in the contract with Associated Constructors, which would increase the scope of work to include a carpet replacement. The existing carpet is in poorer condition
than originally thought and its replacement was not included in the original agreement. The offered price is $7,284, which if accepted would increase the total remodeling contract to $58,664. Staff feels the price is competitive and should be accepted. Funds have been allocated in the Health Dept. budget to cover the additional expense.

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve Change Order #2 Health Dept. Remodelling Project, in the amount of $7,284 for carpet replacement.

Comm. Bays had another meeting to attend and was excused from the Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:10 p.m.

The Committee considered a non-smoking policy at the County Service Center. Randall Johnson, M.D., Director, Marquette County Health Dept., was present and explained that the Board of Health was in favor of the non-smoking policy and presented the proposal to the County Board in October. The County Board was advised by Civil Counsel that such a policy would be considered a change in working conditions, and is therefore a collective bargaining issue.

The Commissioners received a copy of a memo from Larry Hill, Chapter Chairperson of the Health Dept. Local 2914, which certifies that the bargaining unit voted in favor of a ban on smoking in the entire building known as the Marquette County Service Center.

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole recommends the County Board approve and implement a non-smoking policy for the Marquette County Service Center.

The Committee considered a recommendation from the Marquette County Community Corrections Advisory Board, to approve a bill for $8,737.50. The bill was submitted by the Community Corrections Consortium for contractual services. It was noted in the memo from Tal Lapins, Chairperson of the Advisory Board, that Civil Counsel, David Payant, voted nay.

Civil Counsel Payant explained that before making the final payment, the Community Corrections Plan should be reviewed in detail to see that it has the form and substance that the contractor was hired for. This $8,737.50 payment is not the last one, so Civil Counsel Payant now concurred to pay this one; however, his advice will be followed by the Community Corrections Advisory Board. Before recommending the final payment, Staff will thoroughly review the Plan.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the bill for $8,737.50, submitted by Community Corrections Consortium for partial payment for contractual services.

The Committee considered a request by the State Highway Dept. for an option to purchase land from the Quincy Development Corp. David Payant, Civil Counsel, was present and explained that the Quincy Development Corp. has mortgaged a large amount of acreage in Marquette County to secure a loan for Pelletech Technology, Inc. The County has sued to foreclose on these lands; however, the Highway Dept. would like us to agree to allow Quincy Development Corp. to sell a couple of acres to the Highway Dept. for the construction of a retaining pond. The pond is necessary as part of improvements to the highway going through the City of Hancock. Civil Counsel Payant recommends that the County Board approve the option and negotiate with the local banks to obtain a portion of the proceeds of the sale.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board consent to the request by the State Highway Dept. for an option to purchase the land from the Quincy Development Corp., and that the County negotiate with the bank to obtain a portion of the proceeds of the sale.
The Committee considered monthly retirement data presented by Randell Girard, Human Resources Director. Comm. Bays requested the information, therefore Chairperson Corkin deferred this item for consideration at the next County Board meeting.

The Committee considered a resolution adopting an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation for the Marquette County Building Authority. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, explained that several months ago County Treasurer, James Sodergren, asked to be removed from the County Building Authority. The resolution has been drafted by Marquette County's Bond Counsel, and provides language allowing the County Treasurer to not be a member of the Building Authority, but still be treasurer of its funds. The County Board has already appointed Henry Schneider, Equalization Director, as Mr. Sodergren's replacement.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board adopt the resolution amending the Articles of Incorporation of the Marquette County Building Authority.

The Committee considered a Sheriff's Dept. Road Patrol Contract to provide supplemental police services for 40 hours per week to Marquette Township, and a part-time minimum of 20 hours per week to Tilden Township. The rate for these services will be $23.83 per hour for 1991. Sheriff Maino was present to explain the contracts for each Township and answer questions. The contracts have already been reviewed by Civil Counsel and the Administrator. As a result of the contracts several budget amendments will be required costing the County a total of $6,217.00; however, the cost will be recaptured through the Township contracts over several years.

On a motion by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. DeFant, the Committee of the Whole unanimously recommends the County Board approve the Road Patrol Contract between the Marquette County Sheriff's Dept., Marquette Township, and Tilden Township for supplemental police services, and that the appropriate budget amendments totalling $6,217.00 be approved and taken from 1990 contingency.

Three additional applicants for the Solid Waste Planning Committee in the "Waste Management Industry" category were presented by Clerk Roberts. The applicants are Michael Hamel, Champion Township; Ken Tuominen, Ely Township; and Dave Olsen, Marquette.

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

On a motion by Comm. DeFant, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, the Committee of the Whole voted unanimously to go into Closed Session for the discussion of labor negotiations with the Senior Officers Association.

Chairperson Corkin declared a brief recess to clear Commission Chambers.

CLOSED SESSION

The Committee of the Whole came back into Open Session. No action was forthcoming as a result of the Closed Session.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
ROLL CALL.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD ON NOVEMBER 27, 1990.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Review of Claims and Accounts.

Year-end Budget Review from Gary Yoder, Finance Manager.


Letter of Intent to construct a Control Tower at the
Marquette County Airport.

Progress Payment - Health Dept. Remodelling.

Change Order #2, Health Dept. Remodelling.

Proposed Non-Smoking Policy at the Marquette County Service
Center.

Approval of an $8,737.50 bill dated 11-12-90 submitted by the
Community Corrections Advisory Board.

Request by the State Highway Dept. for an option to purchase
land from Quincy Development Corp.

Monthly Retirement Data from Randell Girard, Director of
Human Resources.

Resolution adopting Amendment to Articles of Incorporation of
the Marquette County Building Authority.

Marquette County Health Care Access Project Advisory
Committee meets Tuesday, December 11, 1990, at 9:30 a.m. in
Room CO 115 (Old Courthouse).

PUBLIC COMMENT.

CLOSED SESSION: Discussion of labor negotiations - Senior
Officers Association.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT.