The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, October 26, 1993 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenaault, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried on a roll call vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on October 12, 1993 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried on a roll call vote that the agenda be approved with the following late addition: Item 9) be an update by Administrator Dennis Aloia on the fuel tank removal at the Big Bay Harbor.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenaault and unanimously carried on a roll call vote that Claims and Accounts for the period October 8, through October 21, 1993 in the amount of $778,137.35 be approved.

The Committee considered a request from Carolyn Hanson, Friend of the Court, for Board approval to continue banking services with First of America Bank of Marquette under a new account, converting to the State of Michigan’s computer system. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, explained that the County Board must approve and certify the Friend of the Court staff who will be allowed to endorse checks and recommended approval and certify that Karla Rushford, Mary Brown, and Carolyn Hanson be allowed to endorse checks.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Friend of the Court’s account at the First of America Bank of Marquette as requested and certify that Karla Rushford, Mary Brown, and Carolyn Hanson be allowed to endorse checks.

The Committee considered an analysis of the most recent billings for the Specific Ore Tax Litigation. The total cost of this billing is $8,658.38, of which $1,610.46 is the County’s portion. There presently remains $3,500 in the Specific Tax Litigation Fund.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the recent bill of $1,610.46 for the Specific Ore Tax Litigation.

The Committee considered a letter from James Alderton, Chairperson, Marquette County Road Commission, informing the County Board that the Cap Daniels mine shaft was filled and the fencing re-erected. The task was completed on September 27th, 28th, and 29th by Road Commission personnel, with the cooperation of Dana Varvil, adjacent property owner, who permitted access to the site. The cost to the Road Commission amounted to $1,301.83. They are the property owner.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole accept the communication for file and recommend that the County Board send a letter of thanks to the Road Commission for capping and fencing the Cap Daniels abandoned mine shaft.

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, provided an update on the fuel tank removal at the Big Bay Harbor. Last week on Thursday and Friday, a 18' x 6' x 6' fuel tank was removed. The tank was very close to the sea wall structure near the harbor. Only three small holes were found in the top of the tank, between 1 and 2 o’clock. The practice was to fill the tank to half
capacity so staff feels confident that there is not much fuel contamination. The soil testing results are expected in approximately two weeks. Then County staff will meet with the DNR to negotiate a soil remediation plan. Most likely the soil must be remediated on site because of the potential collapse of the sea wall. Also removed was a beautiful twenty-year-old maple tree. Its roots were grown around the tank so there was no choice. The tank removal went well, but staff wants our engineers to come up with a reasonable remediation plan. They are working for the County, not for the DNR. Meanwhile, the County has applied for MUSTFA funding. Administrator Aloia will report again to the County Board when the soil testing results are available.

Comm. Seppanen suggested that Staff request information on President Clinton's plan for federal offices to use recycled paper. Perhaps the plan is a viable option for County offices.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

Comm. Braamse expressed concern about the lack of parking around the County Courthouse and wondered if anything could be done about it. Administrator Aloia reported that a survey is presently in process and he will report to the County Board when the information is complete.

Comm. Angeli suggested that the County Board consider putting the operation of the Valente Medical Care Facility on a millage proposal to the voters of Marquette County. Should they turn it down, the County Board consider selling the facility to a private operator.

Comm. Potvin concurred that the County Board should consider a medical care facility millage proposal along with several other millages that must be renewed next year.

Comm. Potvin commended Dr. Randall M. Johnson, Health Department Director, for the excellent reports that he provides to the Board of Health. He suggested that Administrator Aloia do similar reports for the County Board. Administrator Aloia indicated he could do so if the Board desires, but pointed out the County Board meets four times a month. He is present at all meetings and provides many reports and recommendations, whereas the Health Board only meets once a month.

Comm. Potvin also thanked the members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Soil Erosion and Sedimentation again for their efforts in drafting a proposed ordinance. He was not present at the meeting at which the ordinance was dropped and was disappointed that the Committee of the Whole did not at least recommend a public hearing. He finds it ironic that now Marquette County's proposed ordinance has become a potential model for similar ordinances around the state.

Comm. Angeli added that the Health Department Environmental Engineer, Karen Lamora, has been asked to make presentations around the state regarding soil erosion.

Chairperson Corkin pointed out that the state statutes on soil erosion are a primary example of an unfunded mandate by the State. It would be nice if the County could afford the staff for inspections and enforcement, however, we cannot afford a Cadillac program on a Chevrolet budget.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Hearing and Continuation of the Annual Meeting
Tuesday, October 26, 1993 at 7:00 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (NONE).
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
   b. PUBLIC HEARING on Stormwater Management Ordinances (Fourth Draft, September 23, 1993 . . . Ordinance previously distributed)
      I. Review of rules (VIII-2) by Chairperson
      II. Staff Comments
      III. Public Comment
      IV. Discussion
      V. Close of Hearing
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   b. Letter from State Senator Don Kovisto, acknowledging County Resolution supporting 911/Central Dispatch Services.
   c. Letter from Curtis Hertel, Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, expressing his support for local units of government and opposition to the Governor's plan to end revenue sharing.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
   a. Marquette County Stormwater Management Ordinance.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.