The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, June 14, 1994, at 4:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


Absent: None.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on May 24, 1994 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved as presented.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period May 21 through June 10, 1994 in the amount of $5,026,423.65 be approved.

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The Committee considered a memo from Norman Holmes, Chairperson of the Marquette County Planning Commission, regarding a proposal from Gerald Stille, Gwinn, that the County take over operation of the K.I. Sawyer Golf Course. It is the Planning Commission's position that the expansion of public golf opportunities has been long identified as a need in the County recreation plan. Every effort should be made to achieve the goal where the course at K.I. Sawyer could provide unrestricted public play at a reasonable cost. In terms of the County's role, it is premature to say that the County is the appropriate agency to own, operate or otherwise be involved with the golf course. The future of the golf course is intricately linked with the alternatives which will be selected for reuse of the base facilities.

The Planning Commission recommendation is that the County Board initiate two strategies: First, the reuse process has just begun, therefore, the Board should go on record with the K.I. Sawyer Base Conversion Authority that it is in our region's best interest to establish a public golf course at K.I. Sawyer. Second, in order to address the specific issues about ownership, management/operation, finance, and positive effects on economic development, the reuse effort should include an analysis of the feasibility of developing the course as a public facility.

Several Commissioners expressed concern about the County getting into the golf course business. A question was also raised as to the financing of a feasibility study. It was pointed out that at present the County is not getting into the golf course business, but wants the best use for the facility and recommends that the Conversion Authority study the matter.

It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole concur with the Planning Commission recommendations and go on record with the K.I. Sawyer Base Conversion Authority that it is in our region's best interest to establish a public golf course at K.I. Sawyer and second, request that the Conversion Authority undertake a feasibility analysis regarding the ownership, management, operation and finances of the course as a public facility.

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The Committee considered a memo from Norman Holmes, Chairperson of the Marquette County Planning Commission. The memo explains that the Marquette County Planning Commission received an update from staff regarding fuel contaminated soils. They were informed that the Solid Waste Management Authority has voted in favor of developing a program to deal with fuel impacted soils. The Planning Commission also wants to inform the Board that they are continuing their support of the County Board's efforts to resolve the issue by enforcing the ban on out of County disposal.

Jim Rippola, Planner, was present and explained that the Solid Waste Authority has been reviewing Delta County procedures for the disposal of fuel contaminated soils. The DNR has been testing stockpiles to see what soils are good for daily cover and what soils could be disposed of in the landfill. The Solid Waste Authority has until June 27 to have a policy in place for implementing their plan.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Braamsse and unanimously carried by voice vote to place the communication on file.

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The Committee considered a memo from Norman Holmes, Chairperson of the Marquette County Planning Commission, regarding amendment to the Marquette County Recreation Plan for the development of the Suicide Bowl Area. The County Planning Commission at its April meeting reviewed a staff report and indicated the Suicide Bowl proposed project was consistent with the needs noted in the Recreation Plan. The Planning Commission directed Staff to draft specific amendments to the County Recreation Plan which encourages and supports the Suicide Bowl Improvement Project. The process was completed on June 1, 1994, reviewed and discussed, and the Planning Commission voted to support the amendments as presented by Staff.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote to place the communication on file.

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The Committee considered a request from Ron Koshorek for a Budget Amendment to repair water line damage at the Acocks Facility property. Mr. Koshorek explained that deep frost this winter froze and broke a water supply line which feeds the Employment Programs Office. Emergency repairs were performed but there is not enough money in the Resource Management budget to complete the work. An application has been filed for emergency state and federal funds to reimburse the expenses.

Costs for repairs are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excavation/Temporary Repair</td>
<td>$788.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials for Permanent Repair</td>
<td>$730.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,518.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mr. Koshorek requests an amendment to the 1994 operating budget, adding $700.00 from the contingency fund.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the budget amendment for the Resource Management Department to complete repairs for the broken water supply line at the Acocks property with the appropriate budget amendment.

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The Committee considered a request from Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director, for a budget amendment to pay increased storm water utility fees to the City of Marquette. The City of Marquette in October of 1993 established a Storm Water Utility Ordinance. In doing so they adopted a fee structure which would fund the cost of improvements to their storm water system. The County has been advised that the annual fees for County owned property within the City limits will increase for 1994 by an amount of $2,242.00.

Mr. Koshorek further explained that in October of 1993, during the budget process they did not anticipate these fees.

Comm. Potvin requested that the Resource Management Department look at alternative ways to reduce storm water runoff from County property, as a method of avoiding all or part of the fees in the future. The County will have to pay these fees annually along with gradual increases over the years.

County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, also reported that he has asked the County Drain Commission, Mike Farrell, to come to the July 5th County Board meeting with a update on the County Storm Water Plan.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the request for budget amendments to pay the Storm Water Utility Fee assessed by the City of Marquette, taking the necessary funds from contingency with the appropriate budget amendment.

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The Committee considered a request from Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director, for a Partial Discharge of Mortgage, i.e. Carl R. Saari and Carol J. Saari: 81-CW-22. Mr. Koshorek reported that one of our community development loan recipients has sold a portion of their property and is requesting the Partial Discharge of Mortgage on approximately .63 acres of vacant land. The mortgage is for $2,340.00. Sufficient value exists in the remaining land in buildings to protect the loan. Mr. Koshorek recommends the Board authorize the Chair to sign the Mortgage Discharge.

Comm. Trudell requested that he be allowed to abstain from voting on the Discharge of Mortgage because he is related to Carl and Carol Saari.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and carried on a voice vote (9 Ayes, 0 Nays, with Comm. Trudell Abstaining), that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the request for a Partial Discharge of Mortgage, i.e., Carl R. Saari and Carol J. Saari: 81-CW-22.

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The Committee considered the Decision and Notice of Interim Trail Use or Abandonment for the Escanaba and Lake Superior Railroad Company by the Interstate Commerce Commission. Civil Counsel, David Payant, had reviewed the Decision and Notice (Docket No. AB-4156) and pointed out that the County’s comments that were forwarded to the Interstate Commerce Commission regarding the use of abandoned railroads for the recreational trail system has been incorporated into the document.

Al Feldhauser, Planner, was also present and further explained that the Michigan DNR has reserved a 180 day period for the railroad to remove any track or ties, however, they cannot remove bridges or trestles. The railroad right-of-ways are to stay intact and not to be divided up among adjacent property owners.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried to place the communication on file.

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The Committee considered a request from David C. Gillis, Executive Director, CUPPAD Regional Commission, for the County Board's approval and concurrence with the preparation of their 1994 Annual OED Report. The CUPPAD Regional Commission has for many years prepared an annual report on behalf of the six county region and submitted it to the EDA to satisfy their planning requirements.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt a resolution of approval and concurrence of the 1994 Annual OEDP Report.

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The Committee considered a packet of information and a resolution from Lieutenant Governor Connie Binsfield inviting the Marquette County Board of Commissioners to participate in a year long celebration to support and strengthen families in Michigan. Lieutenant Governor Binsfield is the Chairperson of the Michigan International Year of the Family Council. She requests that the Marquette County Board issue a proclamation announcing their participation in the Michigan celebration. Ms. Binsfield also enclosed a model community plan which may be used locally on behalf of a particular family or families in the community.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt a resolution to proclaim 1994 as the Michigan International Year of the Family in Marquette County.

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The Committee considered an annual update on the progress and current status of the soil survey project from Dennis Robinson, Environmental Division, Michigan Department of Agriculture.

The report explained that approximately 253,000 acres were soil mapped in 1993 and about 750,000 acres had been mapped to date. All areas indicated by County officials as high priority have been completed. During the 1994 mapping season another 230,000 acres in Ewing, Ishpeming, Marquette, Powell and Tilden Townships will be completed.

Chairperson Corkin pointed out that the Soil Survey Agreement between Marquette County and the Michigan Department of Agriculture is for seven years from April 1, 1989 through April 1, 1996 but it is renewed on an annual basis.

It was moved by Comm. Trudell, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the Annual Update on the Soil Survey Project and extend the Soil Survey Agreement between Marquette County and the Michigan Department of Agriculture until April 1, 1995.

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The Committee considered a letter from Elliott A. Brown, Deputy Director, U.S. Department of Justice, concerning Marquette County's Grant Application to the Police Hiring Supplement Program. The U.S. Department of Justice has received 2,760 applications for grants to hire additional law enforcement officers. The competition for these grants if very intense with funds limited to $150,000,000. They were able to award only 250 grants or fewer than one in ten. Marquette County's Application was not among those accepted for funding.
Commissioners questioned what the criteria was used in deciding which
grant applications were approved, will these funds be going mainly to cities
or were any rural communities applications approved? Chairperson Corkin
requested that the Administrator contact Congressman Bart Stupak for further
information on the Police Hiring Supplement Grant Program.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Trudell and unanimously
carried by voice vote to place the communication on file.

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The Committee considered an update on Court financing from the Michigan
Association of Counties. Long awaited legislation for 100% State financing
of Courts passed the State House of Representatives but it now faces an
uphill battle in the Senate.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously
carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County
Board write to State Senator Don Koivisto requesting that he support 100%
State financing of the Courts without Counties having to lose their State
Revenue Sharing Funds.

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The Committee considered communications from Kalkaska County regarding
the services and attitudes of the MSU Extension Staff.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and
unanimously carried to place the communication on file.

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

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Announcements:

Chairperson Corkin read a report on a Federal Aviation Administration
meeting held on June 9, 1994 which indicated that the K.I. Sawyer Air Force
Base will lose its air traffic control system and the FAA will not pick it up.
The justification for this decision is based upon the present number of
enplanements in the County and has not taken into consideration any future
County plans for reuse of the Air Base. The County had agreed to play by
the rules and not politicize the process but the FAA has decided not to
continue with the K.I. Air Traffic Control System. The Airport Committee
will now have to use whatever political means it can to save the radar
system.

Comm. Joseph indicated he did not like the procedure used in last
year's budget hearing process and would like the matter discussed at the
next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Comm. Minelli wondered if a report was available yet from Michigan
State University consultants on the County's Strategic Planning Session.
County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, has communicated to Professor Ken
VerBurg and Lynn Harvey that not enough time was provided after the meeting
with Department Heads for the County Board to hold meaningful discussions.
Professor Ken VerBurg and the MSU Consultants want to meet with the County
Board again but he suggested to them that they get input from all Department
Heads and prepare a first draft report for Commissioners to review before
they meet. Commissioners concurred.

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Comm. Potvin pointed out during the recent public announcement by Congressman Stupak and State Representative Jacobetti, regarding the federal disaster assistance that will be provided for the expense incurred during the last winter freeze-up of many municipal water systems, the County was not mentioned. It may be that Rep. Stupak and Rep. Jacobetti worked hard to secure this funding, but these funds must pass through the County and no agency worked harder to secure the funding than the County Emergency Program Department. Comm. Potvin hoped that in the future the County of Marquette would be treated with more respect and dignity.

The Committee considered a request from Comm. Potvin that Marquette County investigate the possibility of charging jail inmates for part of the cost of being housed in the jail facilities.

County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, reported that Sheriff Joe Maino has been looking into the matter. Many counties are charging jail inmates for room and board, medical, and other services.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board request that Administrator Aloia and Sheriff Maino review and report on the potential of charging inmates for use of the county jail.

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The Committee considered an announcement from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, regarding the registration for the Michigan Association of Counties Annual Summer Conference. This year’s MAC Conference is being held at Boyne Highlands in Harbor Springs, Michigan. Administrator Aloia requested any Commissioner interested in attending to please contact Karla so reservations can be made.

It was moved by Comm. Arsennault, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board allow at least two Commissioners to attend the 1994 Summer Michigan Association of Counties Conference.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
ROLL CALL.


PUBLIC COMMENT.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Review of Claims and Accounts.

Request for Marquette County to Operate the K.I. Sawyer Golf Course.

Memo from the Marquette County Planning Commission regarding Fuel Contaminated Soils.

Amendment to the Marquette County Recreation Plan - Suicide Bowl.

Water Line Damage - Acocks Property.

Request for Budget Amendments from Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director for Increased Storm Water Utility Fees.


Interstate Commerce Commission Decision and Notice of Interim Trial Use or Abandonment, Escanaba and Lake Superior Railroad.


Resolution to Proclaim 1994 as the Michigan International Year of the Family.

Annual Update on the Progress and Current Status of the Soil Survey Project.

Letter from Elliott A. Brown, Deputy Director, U.S. Department of Justice, regarding Marquette County's Grant Application to the Police Hiring Supplement Program.

Update from the Michigan Association of Counties regarding State Court Financing.

Communications from Kalkaska County regarding the Kalkaska MSU Extension Service.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT.