The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, July 26, 1994 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skews Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on July 12, 1994 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Comm. Don Potvin introduced Mr. Sugimama and Mr. Radona from Yokachi, Japan. They are part of the Sister City Delegation that is visiting the City of Marquette and will be leaving on their return trip to Japan tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Sugimama expressed his happiness to stay in Marquette City. He will never forget the kindness shown to him, Thank you very much.

On behalf of the County Board of Commissioners and the Citizens of Marquette County, Chairperson Corkin welcomed Mr. Sugimama and Mr. Radona to the County Board meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late addition:

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period July 8, 1994, through July 21, 1994 in the amount of $1,030,784.32 be approved.

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The Committee considered an Amended Interlocal Agreement for the Six County Employment Alliance. It was moved by Comm. Trudell, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried by voice vote that consideration of the Amendment to the Six County Employment Alliance Interlocal Agreement be postponed until the next Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for August 16, 1994.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from George Wright, Facilities Manager, on the photocopier purchase bids. Mr. Wright was present and explained that bids have been received to replace two of our most used photocopiers. The largest of the two is the replacement for the Health Department machine which at present has made approximately 2,500,000 copies. The smaller of the photocopiers will replace the County Clerk’s machine which has made 2,060,000 copies. The bid tabulation from five dealers includes service and supply costs for the expected five-year life of the machines. Staff recommendation is to accept the low bids for each machine as follows:

Business Machines and Equipment Co. - Savon 9050i - $11,395
(Health Department Copier)

Sayen’s Business Equipment Inc., - Mita 3785 - $7,034.00
(County Clerk Copier)

The funds are available in the Internal Services Copying/Computer Enterprises 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 photocopier purchase recommendation.
The Committee considered a request from Doug Skytta, Chairperson, Fund Raising Committee of the Lake Superior Iron Ore Sesquicentennial. A $25,000 pledge from Cleveland-Cliffs has been made on a matching basis. This is not an outright gift from CCI but they will receive the money only if they can raise a similar amount from the local community.

Civil Counsel, David Payant, explained that the County Board is not permitted by law to give out any financial support for this event. The Board can only give dollars to an organization that may be providing some service to the County. For example, the Ishpeming Ski Hall of Fame is covered under a special statute regarding museums. There appears to be no law which would cover an event like the Iron Ore Sesquicentennial.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Potvin and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole direct Civil Counsel Payant to write a letter to Mr. Skytta explaining that the County Board cannot provide financial support for the Lake Superior Iron Ore Sesquicentennial.

The Committee considered the invoice for services rendered through June 30, 1993 for the Court Funding Litigation Class Action Suit. The invoice shows a total owed by Marquette County of $2,861.61 however, the County already paid approximately $2,400, so the amount presently owed is $480.27.

Civil Counsel David Payant explained that by participating in this lawsuit we have guaranteed our position for any claims for Court Funding before the lawsuit, however, future funding will be provided to all Michigan Counties whether or not they participated in the Class Action Suit. The Supreme Court may still rule on past funding matters.

County Administrator Dennis Aloia further added that the State has budgeted $4,500,000 for Court Funding in 1995, which is a drop in the bucket for what is needed. He estimates that Marquette County will receive between $10,000 to $40,000 from the State through its budget.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Bramse, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board pay the balance of $480.27 for services rendered in the Court Funding Litigation Class Action Suit.

The Committee considered a letter from Florence Barrington, Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Marquette Senior Day Care Center, regarding recently denied funding to the Senior Day Care Center from the Upper Area Agency on Aging. The adult day care program for low income elderly Marquette County residents has been in place for the past six years. Miriam Hilton, Manager of the Day Care Center explained that the annual budget for the Center is about $12,000. UPCAP has allocated $2,000 to this program for five years, however, this year UPCAP has denied the $2,000 allocation.

Chairperson Corkin, who sits on the UPCAP Board of Directors explained that all the monies that are now allocated for senior programs through UPCAP are being provided in one lump sum to only one agency. In Marquette County it is the Commission on Aging. He recommended that the Marquette Senior Day Care Center request the $2,000 from the Commission on Aging.

Edie Hall, Director of the Commission on Aging, was present and explained that they were not aware of any additional funding to cover the Marquette Senior Day Care Program. Their grant from UPCAP amounts to $35,346 however, the Senior Day Care Center is a different program which provides different services.

Chairperson Corkin further explained that it is his understanding that all of the money to be provided for senior programs has already been given to the Marquette County Commission on Aging. Whether or not the $2,000 was included in the funding would have to be checked into.
Edie Ball and Florence Barrington will contact UPCAP once again to determine whether funding for the Senior Day Care Center was part of the Commission on Aging’s annual appropriation. Edie Ball will also review previous years’ budgets to accurately determine the funding levels for Marquette County. Commissioners would like to know if there has been a reduction in the funds provided by UPCAP. Also, did UPCAP also get a reduction in funding from the Federal Government? Edie Ball will report back to the Commissioners.

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

Comm. Angeli reported that the Social Services Board is upset with the County Board. At their last meeting they played a tape of the discussion the County Board had regarding the Social Services Board. They would like to be able to work with the County Board and resolve any differences we might have.

Chairperson Corkin reminded Commissioners that we asked member of the County Board to go through the Board liaisons to various boards and commissions with any questions.

Comm. Potvin reiterated his concern that the Social Services Board has yet to respond to his request regarding a number of financial questions and he feels that he has the right to make that request directly to their Board and should not have to go through Administrators or Board Chairpersons.

Comm. Seppanen also pointed out that Commissioners should keep it in their minds as to what members of appointed boards and commissions cooperate with the County Board and those who don’t when it comes to the annual appointment process.

It was moved by Comm. Angeli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and carried on a voice vote, 7 ayes to 1 nay (with Comm. Potvin voting Nay) that the Committee of the Whole direct Chairperson Corkin and Administrator Aloia to meet with Brad Cory, the Medical Care Administrator and the Chair of the Social Services Board.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, July 26, 1994 at 4:30 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Amendment to the Six County Employment Alliance Interlocal Agreement.
7. Photocopier Purchase Recommendations from George Wright, Facilities Manager.
8. Request for Iron Ore Sesquicentennial Financial Support from Doug Skytta, Chair, Fund Raising Committee.
9. Invoice for Court Funding Litigation.
10. Request from Florence Barrington, Chair, Board of Directors, Marquette Senior Daycare Center, for County Board Support for Recently Denied Funding.

Reminder: The next County Board Meeting is scheduled for August 9, 1994.