The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 21, 1995 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


A Salute to the Flag was given, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Rapport and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the March 7, 1995 Regular Board Meeting be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Bob Beams from Richmond Township was present and explained that he is speaking on behalf of some members of the Townships Association who prefer to remain anonymous regarding the retroactive pay provided to Sheriff Joseph Maino. According to a Prosecuting Attorney Opinion #95-1 issued on January 25, 1995 by Civil Counsel David Payant, a retroactive pay increase for the Sheriff is not legal. Mr. Beams questioned what steps the County Board has taken to recover the funds? He declared the County Board should rescind the pay increase and suggested several options: Ask the Sheriff to pay the increase back, deduct it from his future wages, or the County Board could face litigation.

Comm. Seppanen contended that Mr. Beams’ interpretation of the Opinion to be incorrect. The Sheriff’s pay was incorrectly established at the wrong level due to a point factoring error and the Sheriff is now being compensated at the appropriate level. Comm. Seppanen has asked Civil Counsel to get an Attorney General’s Opinion regarding the matter.

Civil Counsel Payant reported that he has forwarded a request to the Michigan Attorney General. It will probably take six months to one year before he receives a response.

There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Trudell, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following items be approved with the following late additions: Item 11a) Marquette Chamber of Commerce concern regarding K.I. Sawyer and 11b) Governor’s appointment to the Social Services Board.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:

9a) A letter of resignation from Dan Vivian from the Building Code Board of Appeals, because Mr. Vivian is moving out of the area, and further that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mr. Vivian.

9b) 1994 Circuit Court Activity Summary from Edward A. Quinnell, Chief Circuit Judge.


9e) Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners Spring Conference, May 12 through 13, 1995, Houghton. (Commissioners interested in attending please contact Karla in the Administrator’s Office no later than April 12th).
ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that actions items 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, 10e, 10f, 10g be approved as follows:

10a) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve life insurance from AIG Life Insurance Company through School’s Insurance Fund at $.18 per thousand per coverage. And to approve the low proposal from CIGNA Group Insurance through Northern Underwriters at .47 percent of covered payroll for long term disability insurance (LTD).

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10b) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to adopt a resolution to establish a governance agreement for the management and reuse of the K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners desires to establish a governance agreement for the management and reuse of K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base property; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners desires to begin negotiations with the affected townships concerning the structure of a proposed reuse authority,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners hereby supports the concept of organizing a K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base reuse authority under the provisions of Act VII of the Public Acts of 1967, as amended, MCL 124.501 et seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the chairperson of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners is authorized to negotiate a proposed authority agreement and present the same to the Board of Commissioners for consideration.

Adopted this 21st day of March, 1995
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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10c) A Committee of the Whole recommendation that the County Board approve a grant application and authorize the Planning Commission to conduct its public hearing on April 5th regarding a 1995 Community Development Block Grant Application being offered by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) in the amount of $300,000, resolution as follows:

Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners
of Marquette County, Michigan
Authorizing submission of an application to seek
Michigan State Housing Development Authority CDBG funding

WHEREAS the Michigan State Housing Development Authority has promulgated instructions for applying for the 1995 Michigan CDBG Housing Program Funds, and

WHEREAS the County of Marquette recognizes the need of low and moderate income residents of the County for safe and sanitary housing, and
WHEREAS the County of Marquette is desirous of applying for such funding to cover proposed single family dwelling rehabilitation in the County for such low and moderate income residents.

WHEREAS the County of Marquette hereby adopts an equal opportunity and fair housing policy and reaffirms its affirmative action policy and drug free workplace policy.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Marquette County, Michigan authorize submission of an application to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for funding under the 1995 Michigan CDBG Housing Program to cover the cost of proposed housing rehabilitation and associated activities within the County.

Adopted this 21st day of March, 1995
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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10d) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to adopt the resolution applying for grant assistance to undertake the Perkins Park Development Project, resolution as follows:

PERKINS PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the County of Marquette has prepared a Recreation Plan which recognizes various County recreation needs and specifically prioritizes improvements at Perkins Park;

WHEREAS, the County of Marquette has accepted a master plan for Perkins Park that proposes a variety of improvements to enhance the overall recreational use of the park;

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is currently offering financial assistance for such projects through the MNRTF and LAWCON grant programs to help defray costs of the Perkins Park Development Project;

WHEREAS, The Marquette County Committee of the Whole heard public comments regarding the Perkins Park Development Plan at a meeting held March 14, 1995;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners hereby applies for assistance from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Grants Program and intends to undertake the Perkins Park Development Project if a grant is offered.

Adopted this 21st day of March, 1995
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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10e) A Committee of the Whole recommendation that the County Board approve the bid of Ted’s Paint and Drywall for $19,200 for the Service Center Re-roofing Project.

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10f) A Committee of the Whole recommendation that the County Board approve the low bid from Pitney Bowes Company for $22,800 for the burster and tax processing equipment bid.

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10g) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the FY 1995 contract amendment with the State Office of Community Corrections in the amount of $18,000 to provide substance abuse services to eligible felons.

LATE ADDITIONS

11a) Comm. Angeli serves as County Board liaison to the Marquette Chamber of Commerce. At a recent meeting he was requested by the Chamber to seek support from the County Board for a letter to let our federal politicians know that we are against the Air Force charging rent to new businesses being established at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base.

It was moved by Comm. Angeli, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board forward the following resolution to U.S. Senator Carl Levin, U.S. Senator Spencer Abraham and U.S. Congressman Bart Stupak:

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING NO COST LEASING AT K.I. SAWYER AIR FORCE BASE

WHEREAS, the K.I. Sawyer Base Conversion Authority (KISBCA) has attracted new businesses and new jobs as potential lessees at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base; and

WHEREAS, the K.I. Sawyer Base Conversion Authority will need the revenue from lease payments to operate the base after it closes in September and after the caretaker agreement ceases; and

WHEREAS, the Air Force Base Conversion Agency seeks a portion of the hard won lease revenues negotiated by the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense’s own agency, the Office of Economic Adjustment, predicts a 25% unemployment rate in marquette County caused by the closure of the base; and

WHEREAS, the Upper Peninsula already has unemployment chronically higher than the State of Michigan and the nation as well as household income 25% below the State average; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County and Central Upper Michigan desperately needs the jobs which the K.I. Sawyer Authority has lured to the base; and

WHEREAS, the Air Force Base Conversion Agency has the power to waive the lease rates; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the Marquette County Board of Commissioners that Senators Carl Levin and Spencer Abraham, and Congressmen Bart Stupak, James Barcia and Dick Chrysler should vigorously protest the tactics of the AFBCA in demanding these revenues and should support the K.I. Sawyer Base Conversion Authority in its struggle with the AFBCA; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners calls on its Members of Congress to strongly urge the AFBCA to seek a cooperative relationship among equals between the KISBCA and the AFBCA to prevent a repeat of the agency’s attempt to siphon revenues.

Proclaimed this 21st day of March, 1995
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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11b) Comm. Angeli serves as Board Liaison to the Marquette County Social Services Board and requested that the County Board send a letter of appreciation to Mr. Jim Alderson for his outstanding service to Marquette County. Mr. Alderson was replaced by an appointment from Governor Engler on the Social Services Board. Comm. Angeli does not know who the new member is but will find out at the next Social Services Board meeting. Mr. Alderson was a good advocate for Marquette County and a very hard worker on the Social Services Board. Several Commissioners concurred.

Chairperson Corkin direct the Administrator to write a letter of appreciation to Mr. Alderson on behalf of the County Board.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Rapport announced that a series of public forums has been held regarding the Rural Health Project. These forums provide for input by citizens on their views on health care services. A forum to be held at Republic Township was cancelled because of the March 7th Special Election but has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 4, 1995 at 7:00 p.m. at the Republic Township Hall.

Comm. Joseph announced that the Marquette Ambassadors and the Ishpeming Diplomats will be holding a meeting tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, along with Brian Swift the Governor’s U.P. Representative, to discuss K.I. Sawyer leasing.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, March 21, 1995 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 OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR
MEETING HELD ON MARCH 7, 1995.
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. Letter of Resignation from Dan Vivian from the Building Code Board of Appeals.
   b. 1994 Circuit Court Activity Summary from Edward A. Quinnell, Chief Circuit Judge.
   e. Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners Spring Conference May 12-13,
      1995, Houghton.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a Proposal for Life Insurance
       and Long Term Disability.
    b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to adopt a Resolution to Establish a
       Governance Agreement for the Management and Resuse of K.I. Sawyer Property.
    c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a 1995 Community
       Development Block Grant Application and Authorize a Public Hearing conducted by the
       Planning Commission on April 5, 1995.
    d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve an Application for Grant
       Assistance to Undertake the Perkins Park Development Project.
    e. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a Bid for the Service Center Re-
       roofing Project.
    f. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Burster and Tax Processing
       Equipment Bid.
    g. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a Contract Amendment with the
       State Office of Community Corrections to provide Substance Abuse Services to
       Eligible Felons.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a. Member
    b. 555
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.