BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS   COUNTY OF MARQUETTE   JULY 1, 1997

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 1, 1997 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. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the June 17, 1997 Regular Board Meeting be approved.

Chairperson Corkin read the following proclamation honoring Paul Donovan on his retirement and presented Mr. Donovan with a plaque on behalf of the County Board in appreciation for his services:

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION
HONORING PAUL DONOVAN

WHEREAS, Government has an obligation to provide its citizens with the services of the highest quality; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned services can only be provided by employees of the highest caliber; and,

WHEREAS, Paul Donovan has dedicated nearly twenty years of his life to serving the citizens of Marquette County as a Central Dispatch Radio Operator, and

WHEREAS, Paul Donovan has served as a trainer for new dispatchers, received numerous commendations for outstanding work, including two for providing lifesaving instructions over the phone, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners gratefully acknowledges its appreciation for the services of Paul Donovan from August 1, 1977 to July 1, 1997; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that Paul Donovan's conscientiousness, professionalism, pride, patience, and sense of humor have enabled him to serve the people of Marquette County in a most exemplary fashion.

Proclaimed this 1st day of July, 1997
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Patricia K. Cianciolo, 168 Co. Rd. 550, read a letter (Informational Item 9e) expressing concern about the proposed bike path between Marquette and Big Bay. Residents in her area are not opposed to a non-motorized bike path, however, it appears that local snowmobilers are trying to mount an effort in support of this pathway so they can use it as a motorized trail in the winter months. Many of the families along with Big Bay Road enjoy living in the country because it is beautiful, quiet, and peaceful. Loud, speeding snowmobilers late at night is nobody’s idea of a peaceful night in the country. All the neighbors in her area, which consist of approximately 20 families, would like the trail to be non-motorized trail. Ms. Cianciolo requested that they be notified of any public commission meetings where the proposed bike path is to be discussed.

David Thayer, Director, Commission on Aging, was present and requested to address Michigan’s Managed Long Term Care Initiative Resolution which he understands will be a late addition.

There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS   COUNTY OF MARQUETTE   JULY 1, 1997

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following additions: 8b) Privileged Comment: Issuance of Legal Opinions from Gary Walker, 11a) Resolution on Michigan’s Managed Long Term Care Initiative, 11b) KI Sawyer Development Committee Recommendation on Hiring Firm to do the Sawyer Business Plan, 11c) Marquette County Housing Rehabilitation Program, and 11d) Two Memos from Comm. Chah regarding the Tom Rumor Contract and the Negaunee Township Reuse Committee.

PRIVILEGED COMMENT

8a) Chuck Schwenner, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey Project Leader, was present to provide an update on the Marquette County Soil Survey Mapping Project. The project was started in April of 1989 and will be complete in the spring of 1998. All the mapping is done and the only field work left is to collect some additional documentation to be completed for the manuscript. The document will be edited in St. Paul and the final draft and mylars will be sent to Lansing for digitalization of the soils map. A final hard copy publication will be available in three to five years, approximately in the year 2000.

An interim report has been prepared and Mr. Schwenner introduced Larry Carey, Area Resource Conservationist. Mr. Carey explained that the interim report purpose is to provide users of the soil survey a document that will enable them to utilize the information to be contained in the final publication. The detailed map unit descriptions will be printed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The interpretive tables stating the properties limitations and capabilities of the various soils will also be printed by the NRCS. However, detailed soil maps cannot be printed in-house by the NRCS. In order to assure a quality product, this must be done by a professional print shop. The total cost for 100 copies including binding, correlating, and trimming is $2,111.60. The Michigan Department of Agriculture and the Marquette Soil and Water Conservation District have each agreed to allocate $500 towards this project. Mr. Carey requested that the County Board allocate the remaining $1,111.60.

Mr. Schwenner also noted that a "Last Acre" ceremony to help publicize the successful completion of the soil survey will be held on September 3, 1997. They would like to invite all units of government who participated in the survey to attend, more details forthcoming.

Commissioners will consider the request during the 1998 budget process.

Chairperson Corkin, on behalf of the County Board, expressed his appreciation for the excellent work that the Natural Resources Conservation Service has done in mapping the soils of Marquette County. This information will be very valuable for many citizens and Marquette County agencies.

8b) Gary Walker, Marquette County Prosecutor, was present to explain it is the Prosecutor Office’s policy to provide a written opinion in response to a request in writing from the head of a County Department, the Chairperson of the County Board, or the County Board of Commissioners as a body. This does not include requests from individual Commissioners.

The purpose is twofold: A written opinion often requires much time and effort in research and writing. The intent is to assure that opinions sought are matters of concern to the County Government operation and not merely a personal concern of any individual. In addition, the County Board as a whole is a "client" for which the Prosecutor’s Office serves as its Civil Counsel. This effort also insures that information is provided to the Board as a body, rather than in answer to a question which may be phrased in such a way as to influence an answer.

Individual Commissioners are certainly invited to informally discuss any issue with the Prosecutor, however, the policy regarding written opinions, has served the County well over many years.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Rapport and unanimously carried by voice vote that informational items 9a through 9f be accepted and placed on file.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  JULY 1, 1997

b. Commendation from William E. Gehman, Director, Michigan Aeronautics Commission for Marquette County Efforts in Developing KI Sawyer.
e. Letter of Concern from Charles Ganzert and Patricia Cianciolo, 168 Co. Rd. 550, regarding Proposed Bike Path Between Marquette and Big Bay. (It was noted that the specifications in the Planning Grant Application for the Bike Pathway between Marquette and Big Bay calls for a Non-Motorized Trail).
f. Acknowledgement from the Governor’s Office regarding Marquette County’s Behavioral Health Care Resolution.

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ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10b, 10d, and 10e be approved as follows:

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to support an amendment to the Commercial Forest Act to simplify distribution so that it can be done by Township Treasurers, and further request our State Legislators to appropriate the 10 cents per acre to the DNR Forestry Division to administer the CFA as intended.

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve of the FY 1997 Micro-Computer Purchase Bids as recommended by Brent Nault, Data Processing Manager.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to transfer on a monthly basis an appropriation necessary to cover the cost of payroll and fringe benefits for EDC employees’ payroll, transfer from the General Fund to the EDC Payroll Fund.

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

10a) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to establish the Sawyer Airport Runway at 12,369 feet x 150 feet.

Comm. Seppanen noted that he did not support the runway at 12,369 feet at the Committee of the Whole meeting. He does not believe that long a runway was necessary and he will vote no on the recommendation.

Comm. Cihak learned at the last Committee of the Whole meeting that there is a $48,000 cost difference between plowing the longest runway versus the shortest runway. However, the reason a majority of Commissioners voted to keep the long runway open is that it would be expensive to change in the future. Comm. Cihak contended that in reality the necessity for of a loaded 747 landing at KI Sawyer is very slim. If we use the shorter runway we would save $48,000 and in 10 years that $480,000.

Comm. Cihak also noted that the new GPS Landing Approaching System should be available in the near future. This new technology could replace the ILS System and as a result maybe we don’t have to remove any portion of the airport runway.

Comm. Rapport noted that of all options being considered, Airport Manager Hal Pawley indicated he could live with a 10,000 foot runway. Also, Mr. Fallon, of JBF Associates indicated a 10,000 foot runway is adequate until the year 2020. Comm. Rapport is willing to vote for a 10,000 foot runway.

Comm. Arsenault pointed out that we may be limiting ourselves by voting for a shorter runway. The actual difference in cost between the 12,369 foot and the 10,000 foot runway is $35,000 per year. Shortening the runway later would be less expensive than attempting to lengthen the runway later.

Comm. Tuominen pointed out that narrowing the runway to the 150 foot width is where the big cost savings are, rather than the length of the runway. Comm. Roberts concurred.
Comm. Bergdahl noted that we will spend at least $1/2 million to tear up the old runway if we shorten it, then if we find we must lengthen it we will spend millions to put it back. He suggested we stay with the 12,369 foot runway.

Comm. Corkin supported utilizing the full runway length which would provide the most flexibility to the County for the future. He envisions a potential of many good things happening at Sawyer Airport and does not want to limit our options.

Comm. Joseph indicated he will vote against the 12,369 foot runway. He believes it more practical to go to a 10,000 foot runway. He understands that a 747 could easily land on a 10,000 foot runway.

Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, noted that we cannot wait. Several important projects are up for bids on July 24, 1997, including the ILS System, runway lights, and these projects are dependent upon the runway length. Also, FAA requirements are different than military requirements and so the elevation of the ground cannot be higher than the cement runway. Even if the runway was left at the 12,369 feet we must move some earth. If the runway is shortened to 10,000 feet then some of the pavement must also be removed.

Regarding the new GPS Lansing System technology, this may eventually happen, however, the date keeps slipping further into the future. In reality, not every airliner will be able to equip aircraft that would be acceptable to the FAA. Scheduled commercial airlines and charter airlines need very sophisticated GPS systems. We cannot wait because the GPS systems are not here today. The FAA won’t say when GPS will be available, whether it is 2 years, 5 years, 8 years, etc., so we must put in an ILS system.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Roberts and carried by voice vote 5 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Bergdahl, Roberts, Tuominen, and Corkin) to 4 Nays (Comm. Cihak, Joseph, Rapport, and Seppanen) that the County Board approve a Committee of the Whole Recommendation supporting alternative 1 to establish the Sawyer Airport Runway at 12,369 feet x 150 feet.

10c) The County Board considered a recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to proceed with the replacement of the Classification and Compensation System to be completed by O. Wm. Rye & Co.

Comm. Joseph voted Nay at the Committee level regarding this matter and wanted to vote on this issue separately so he could vote nay again.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph) that the County Board approve the Committee of the Whole Recommendation to proceed with the classification and compensation system work to be completed by O. Wm. Rye & Co.

10f) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole Recommendation to direct the County Administrator and the Finance Manager to address the concerns of the EDC Board as to routing funds through the County’s Accounting Department if confidentiality issues could be resolved. This recommendation was approved by the Committee of the Whole on a 6 to 4 vote and therefore, those Commissioners who voted nay wanted the opportunity to vote separately on this item.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and carried by voice vote 5 Ayes (Comm. Seppanen, Arsenault, Rapport, Roberts, and Corkin) to 4 Nays (Comm. Bergdahl, Cihak, Joseph, and Tuominen) that the County Board approve the Committee of the Whole Recommendation directing Administrator Steve Powers and Finance Manager Gary Yoder to address the concerns of routing all EDC funds through the County’s Accounting Department if the confidentiality issues can be resolved.

LATE ADDITIONS

11a) The County Board considered a resolution regarding Michigan’s Managed Long-term Care Initiative in the Upper Peninsula. Comm. Roberts asked that David Thayer, Director of the Commission on Aging be allowed to speak regarding the resolution.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  JULY 1, 1997

Mr. Thayer noted that UPCAP is soliciting letters of support from the 15 Upper Peninsula Counties to administer in-home and community based managed care systems throughout the Upper Peninsula. The request for proposals (RFP's) have not yet been released. Also, the Commission on Aging as been omitted from the 8th Whereas Paragraph as an entity that has had a long term relationship with the Upper Peninsula Area Agency on Aging.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Rapport and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board adopt the resolution which will include the Commission on Aging in Paragraph 8, resolution as follows:

MARQUETTE COUNTY RESOLUTION
REGARDING
MICHIGAN'S MANAGED LONG-TERM CARE INITIATIVE
in the UPPER PENINSULA

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan, Department of Community Health intends to implement a system of Managed Care for all Medicaid programs in the State, including long-term care, and

WHEREAS, the focus of Michigan's Managed Long-Term Care Initiative will incorporate Institutional and Home and Community-Based Long-Term Care into one program, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Community Health has indicated that the Managed Long-Term Care Initiative will be modeled after the current Home and Community-Based Services for the Elderly and Disabled (HCBS/ED) Medicaid Waiver Program, and

WHEREAS, UPCAP Services, Inc. has successfully administered the HCBS/Ed Medicaid Waiver Program in the Upper Peninsula since 1992, and

WHEREAS, UPCAP Services, Inc. has 12-plus years of successful administration experience in home and community based managed care through its Care Management Program, and

WHEREAS, UPCAP has served as the Upper Peninsula Area Agency on Aging since 1974 advocating and planning on behalf of the Upper Peninsula elderly population, and

WHEREAS, UPCAP Services, Inc. has indicated its intention to submit a plan to the Department of Community Health to administer the Managed Long-Term Care Initiative in the Upper Peninsula,

WHEREAS, UPCAP Services, Inc. will develop and utilize a locally based long-term care service delivery network in conjunction with the Medical Care Facilities, County Health Departments, Commission on Aging, Community Action Agencies, Aging Service providers and other local human service providers,

WHEREAS, UPCAP's relationship with County Boards will continue to preserve the roll and voice of County Government in the implementation of Managed Long-Term Care in the Upper Peninsula,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners supports UPCAP Services, Inc. efforts to obtain designation as a Managed Care Organization serving the Upper Peninsula under Michigan's Managed Long-Term Care Initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to all 15 counties of the Upper Peninsula, Upper Peninsula legislators, the Michigan Department of Community Health, and the Michigan Association of Counties.

Adopted this 1st day of July, 1997
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

11b) The County Board considered a recommendation from the KI Sawyer Economic Development Committee to hire JBF Associates to develop the marketing business plan for KI Sawyer. Comm. Arsenault, Chairperson, KISED, noted that the Committee met last evening and considered proposals from two firms. The Committee is recommending that JBF Associates, in conjunction with Sundberg Carlson and Associates be awarded the contract to develop the Marketing/Business Plan and that they start as soon as possible.
John Fallon, President of JBF Associates, was present and explained that the proposed plan has four parts. JBF Associates will develop the marketing plan and the business plan, and Sundberg Carlson and Assoc. will develop the utilities plan the transportation plan. Mike Pond was present on behalf of Sundberg Carlson and Assoc.

The Office of Economic Adjustment has funded up to $246,000 for the development of this plan and the proposal by JBF Associates is just under $200,000.

Comm. Rapport noted that JBF Associates were very well prepared and had done their homework when they presented their plan.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Cihak and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the recommendation of the KISEDCC and award the contract to JBF Associates to do the business plan for KI Sawyer, contingent upon legal review.

11c) The County Board considered a request for Release of Funds and Certification of Environmental Review Procedures along with the authorized Signature Designation Form for the Marquette County Housing Rehabilitation Program. Steve Powers, County Administrator, distributed a recommendation which was approved by the County Board on March 18, 1997 which approved the Michigan CDBG Housing Program Grant Application to seek Michigan State Housing Development Authority Funding. The documents presented tonight are the implementation of the policy decision that was already made by the County Board on March 18th.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Rapport and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board designate Chairperson Corkin as the certifying officer and authorize him to execute the necessary Housing Rehabilitation Program documents, including the Environmental Review Record and the Request for Release of Funds.

11d) The County Board considered two memos from Comm. Cihak. First, regarding the Employment Agreement for Tom Rumora: On June 3rd, the minutes of Action Item 10a indicate that the County Board approved the Committee of the Whole Recommendation "directing staff to develop a contract for the employment of Tom Rumora as KI Sawyer Development Director." A subsequent memo dated June 12th indicated that Gary Walker advised that no further Board action, other than Chairperson Corkin’s signature, was required to complete the agreement. Comm. Cihak thought first, the Contract should appropriately come back to the County Board for final approval, and second, he would have liked to have input into the contractual agreement. Perhaps some type of incentive could be put into the agreement rather than just a straight $7,000 pay increase.

Comm. Arsenault disagreed with an incentive clause in the agreement. We only want to consider quality proposals for businesses to be located at Sawyer rather than risk, for the sake of an incentive, any inferior proposals.

Comm. Rapport contended that in Tom Rumora we have the right man. Mr. Rumora had to take a cut in pay in order to continue as our KI Sawyer Development Director. Now we have a contract with him that is above board.

Chairperson Corkin also noted that the County Administrator and the Chairperson follow County policies and keep the County Board informed.

Comm. Cihak also noted that on June 17th he was not appointed to the Negaunee Township Airport Reuse Committee as requested. Chairperson Corkin indicated the Committee appointments were subject to Board approval. However, a June 6th memo from Administrator Powers reminded Comm. Cihak that the Chairperson makes all the Committee appointments. In view of the action taken on June 17th Comm. Cihak requested clarification of the County Board rule regarding special select committees which states "The Chair shall appoint all special and select committees unless otherwise ordered by the Board. The Chair of the Board will be a member of all committees so appointed."

Comm. Seppanen pointed out that the Negaunee Township Airport Reuse Committee is not a County Board Committee and placing a County Commissioner on this particular committee does not fit the situation.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.
Chuck Prusi, Negaunee Township Supervisor, was present and noted that no one is more aware of what Negaunee Township would like to see at the present County Airport than the Negaunee Township Board and the Negaunee Township Planning Commission. He is concerned that development of plans will be given to an expensive company like JBF Associates. Negaunee Township could do a fine job of planning without outside help at almost no cost.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted that the Federal Government has provided the funds necessary for the reuse of the County Airport and it is up to the County Board to decide who is going to do that. There is no plan in place to use JBF Associates for a reuse plan at the County Airport in Negaunee Township.

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

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioners were concerned that the 5 to 4 vote on the length of the runway, although the majority of a quorum was not a majority of the Board. Civil Counsel Harley Andrews explained that nine Commissioners out of ten is a quorum and a majority vote of a quorum is sufficient to pass the motion.

Comm. Rapport indicted that she would be willing to change her vote to yes to be sure not to hold Airport projects up. According to Board rules what is needed is a "motion to reconsider" by one of the Commissioners that voted in the majority.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board reconsider its motion under Action Item 10a regarding the length of the runway at KI Sawyer.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and carried by roll call vote 6 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Bergdahl, Rapport, Roberts, Tuominen, and Corkin) to 3 Nays (Comm. Cihak, Joseph and Seppanen) that the County Board approve Alternative 1, and establish the Sawyer Airport runway at 12,369 feet x 150 feet.

Comm. Cihak reported that he spoke with a local dealer who was disappointed they were not contacted by a representative of the Sheriff's Department regarding the Heavy Rescue Vehicle. The local dealer quoted some numbers and indicated they could have provided a vehicle similar to the one presently in use for about $25,000. When this issue was brought before the County Board the question was called and debate was cut short. He would have appreciated more debate on the issue, especially in light that there are three new Commissioners who were not privileged to have the three or four years of background materials available. Comm. Cihak requested that in the future should an item have several years of background information, that it be provided for new Commissioners.

Chairperson Corkin noted that he is willing to help any Commissioner but all ten Commissioners are responsible for doing their own homework.

Comm. Seppanen pointed out that the present Heavy Rescue Vehicle, with the equipment it is carrying, is 2,000 pounds over the recommended gross vehicle weight. Purchasing a vehicle equivalent to the one we have would not meet our needs. He will provide this documentation to Comm. Cihak.

Comm. Tuominen, on a positive note, reported that the County Road Commission installed a new bridge and culvert on Co. Rd. CP in Ely Township. The project was completed in two days and with very little inconvenience to residents. They did an excellent job.

Chairperson Corkin announced that the Home Builders Association has invited the County Board and the Administrator to a cookout at 6:30 p.m. at the Northwoods Supper Club on July 23, 1997.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
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 JUNE 17, 1997.

4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
   a. Resolution Honoring Paul Donovan on His Retirement.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
   a. Update on the Marquette County Soil Survey by Chuck Schwenner, Soil Survey Project
      Leader, USDA.
   b. Issuance of legal opinions

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   b. Commendation from William E. Gehman, Director, Michigan Aeronautics Commission
      for Marquette County Efforts in Developing KI Sawyer.
   e. Letter of Concern from Charles Ganzert and Patricia Cianciolo, 168 Co. Rd. 550,
      regarding Proposed Bike Path Between Marquette and Big Bay.
   f. Acknowledgement from the Governor’s Office regarding Marquette County’s Behavioral
      Health Care Resolution.

10. ACTION ITEMS:
   a. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Establish the Sawyer Airport Runway at
      12,369 Feet x 150 Feet.
   b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation Supporting an Amendment to the Commercial
      Forest Act to Simplify Distribution so it can be done by Township Treasurers and
      Request Our State Legislators to Appropriate the 10 Cents Per Acre to the DNR Forestry
      Division to Administer the CFA as Required by the Law.
   c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Proceed with the Replacement of the
      Classification and Compensation System, Work to be Completed by O. William Rye and
      Company.
   d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the 1997 Micro-Computer
      Purchase Bids.
   e. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Transfer on a Monthly Basis an
      Appropriation to Cover the Cost of Payroll and Fringe Benefits for the EDC Staff.
   f. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Address the Concerns of the EDC Board
      Regarding Routing All Funds through the County’s Accounting Department.

11. LATE ADDITIONS:
   a. Rev. Mich’s Managed Long Term Care Initiative in U.P
   c) Early Housing
      e) Area Program
   b. KIS EDC Needs an Item to the Business Plan

12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)

13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

14. ADJOURNMENT.