The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 18, 2001, 7:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on December 4, 2001 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Jim Cihak, Lakeshore Blvd., Marquette, requested to speak during Action Item 10i: Appointments to Various Boards and Commissions.

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

It was moved by Comm. Moore, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period December 7, 2001 through December 13, 2001 in the amount of $373,092.77 be approved.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late addition: 11a) Diesel Fuel Tax Legislation.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

a. Letter from Congressman Bart Stupak Congratulating Chairperson Corkin on Recently Being Presented the Honorary Ambassador Award.
b. Acknowledgement from State Senator Don Koivisto regarding Marquette County Resolution Supporting "Tax Base Protection for Townships."
c. Legislative Alert from County Road Association of Michigan regarding HB 5337.
d. Letter from Ishpeming Township regarding Road Commission Appointment.
e. Hillsdale County Resolution regarding Term Limits.

ACTION ITEMS

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

10a) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve an Agreement with Great Lakes Recovery Centers for the purpose of Community Corrections Services in the amount of $47,085.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to support the Marquette County Planning Commission and send a letter to the MSHDA Office of Community Development in Lansing, Michigan expressing Marquette County concerns regarding the new guidelines for Housing Resource Funds and urge that MSHDA recognize and establish priorities for rural communities throughout the State of Michigan.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to send a letter to the Michigan DNR regarding the Wisconsin Central Ltd. rail abandonment supporting "Rails to Trails."

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a lease agreement for Sawyer Building 741 with the Lake Superior Community Partnership/Economic Development Corporation.
10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a Heat Conversion Contract with Pro-Therm, Inc. in the amount of $224,700 to convert the heating systems in Sawyer Buildings 426, 725, 727, 663, and 667.

10f) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to award and Asbestos Removal Contract to Certified Abatement Services in the amount of $243,547 for Sawyer Building 727 and portions of Sawyer Building 725. (The EDA funding is $197,527 with the County’s share budgeted in the Sawyer Development Fund).

ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

10b) The County Board considered a Construction Bid for Sawyer Building 813 Asbestos Tile Removal. The low bid of $8,900 was by Superior Abatement Services of Marquette. Caretaker has agreed to fund a portion of the cost ($2,000) and the remaining cost ($6,900) will be paid by the SIA Business Center Funds.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted it is urgent to have this building ready as soon as possible soonctc can move in. The contract has been reviewed by Civil Counsel, Risk Management, and Staff recommends its approval.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve of the Construction Bid for Sawyer Building 813 Asbestos Tile Removal in the amount of $8,900 with Superior Abatement Services of Marquette.

10h) The County Board considered approval and execution of the Second Amendment to the Economic Development Conveyance between the Department of the Air Force and Marquette County by adopting the Resolution authorizing the acceptance of County ownership of the electrical utility infrastructure at KI Sawyer.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted in June of 2000 the County Board approved accepting title to the electrical system from the Air Force by June 15, 2001. In return the Air Force agreed to pay the County $70,000 for unmetered electrical costs incurred by the County from January 15, 2000 through September 15, 2000, and also pay the County $5,000 per month for unmetered electrical costs from September 15, 2000 through June 15, 2001, and pay UPPCO’s $3,000 monthly maintenance charge for January 15, 2000 through June 15, 2001. Should the County Board refuse to accept the electrical system the Air Force would very likely want reimbursement for its payment of unmetered electrical expenses and maintenance charges. The current estimated 2002 twelve month cost for the electric system is $200,000. Actual impact on the Sawyer Development Fund Budget is unknown pending negotiations with utility providers including operations and maintenance responsibilities.

Harley Andrews, Chief Civil Counsel, further noted that Marquette County was obligated to accept title of the electrical system on June 15, 2001, however the Air Force agreed to the six month deferment. This is not the final disposition of the electrical system. Upper Peninsula Power Company will still be providing electrical services and maintaining the system pending the County Board’s final decision on the disposition of Sawyer Utilities. Accepting ownership of the electrical system has no bearing on the unmetered electrical costs. The County is currently responsible for these costs and we don’t own the system. Marquette County has already accepted the system in conjunction with the Economic Development Conveyance for KI Sawyer.

Commissioners asked for an update at a future Committee of the Whole meeting regarding the unmetered electrical costs.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve and authorize execution of the Second Amendment to the Economic Development Conveyance between the Department of the Air Force and Marquette County by adopting a resolution authorizing the acceptance of ownership of the Electrical Utility Infrastructure, resolution as follows:

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in December, 1999, the Secretary of the Air Force, on behalf of the United States of America, ("Air Force") and the County of Marquette, ("County") as the Local Reuse Authority for the economic redevelopment of the former K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, ("Base"), entered into an Economic Development Conveyance Agreement, by which the Air Force agreed to grant and convey to the County all of the surplus assets of the former Base; and,

WHEREAS, in recognition of the fact that the closure of the Base has caused significant adverse economic impact within the County resulting in part from the loss of business and economic activity generated by Air Force staff and employees previously working at the Base, the Air Force agreed to grant and convey said surplus assets, including the
utilities infrastructure, to the County at no cost to the County, on the condition that the County utilize said assets, and any proceeds therefrom, for the economic redevelopment of said former Base; and,

WHEREAS, the County also recognizes that the closure of the Base has necessitated significant economic development activity by the County, particularly in the area occupied by the former Base; and,

WHEREAS, Act 380, Michigan Public Acts of 1913, as amended, (MCL 123.871 et seq, as amended) authorizes the County to accept the grant of the utilities infrastructure from the Air Force, and to use said infrastructure and/or the proceeds derived from the grant of said infrastructure, for community and economic development, and for any other purposes specified in that Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners hereby resolves as follows:

1. The County Board of Commissioners hereby expressly exercises its authority under Act 380, Michigan Public Acts of 1913, as amended, and accepts the grant from the Air Force of the electric utility infrastructure located on and within the area of the former K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Economic Development Conveyance Agreement, as amended; and,

2. The County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes its Chair to execute any and all documents necessary to implement this Resolution to accept the grant of the electric utility infrastructure from the Air Force.

Adopted this 18th day of December, 2001
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

10i) The County Board considered appointments to various County Boards and Commissions. During the appointment process several items were noted by the County Board and are listed as follows:

- Jim Cihak, Lakeshore Boulevard, Marquette City, spoke on his behalf for appointment to the Airport Zoning Board of Appeals.
- Comm. Moore noted she and Commissioner Nordeen attended a meeting regarding the Hospice issue and were assured last Wednesday that the Medical Care Facility policy will be changed to allow for patient choice on selecting Hospice services.
- Edith Prosen, Chairperson of the Commission on Aging Nominating Committee, distributed their list of recommendations for appointments to the Commission on Aging.
- A Committee of the Whole Recommendation to reappoint three incumbents to continue the Eastern U.P. Substance Abuse Services Board in order to administer a federal grant be held off and reviewed by Civil Counsel for consideration at a future Board meeting.
- The County Board nominated E. Leonard DeWitt, Ishpeming, Georgianna Maynard, Chocolay Township, and Don Mourand, Negaunee, to the Pathways Substance Abuse Advisory Board with final appointment to be made by Pathways in January, 2002.

The County Board appointed the following applicants to various County Boards and Commissions as follows:

**FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY**
One Vacancy – 3-Year Term Expiring 12/31/04
Caroline Bridges, Negaunee

**BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS**
Two Vacancies – 2-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/03
Walter Maki, Skandia Township
Wayne Roy, Forsyth Township

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD**
2-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/03
James A. Bjorne, Police Chief
Raymond G. Gregory, Business
Dr. Paul L. Lang, Jr., Citizen at Large
Timothy C. Quinnell, Criminal Defense Attorney
Bruce Suardini, Community Alternative Program
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CENTRAL DISPATCH POLICY BOARD
3-Year Term Expiring 12/31/04
Paul Gravedoni, City of Negaunee
Capt. Dave Lemire, Sheriff’s Association
Michael P. Quayle, Citizen at Large
P. Mike Farrell, Fire Chief Association
Dan Wolf, Medical Control Authority
Donna Oliver, Township Association

REMONUMENTATION PEER GROUP
Two Vacancies – 3-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/04
Robert F. Cambensy, City of Negaunee
James S. Thams, General Public

ELECTION SCHEDULING COMMISSION
Three Vacancies – 2-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/03
Norman Gruber, Marquette City Clerk
George R. Kaiser, Negaunee School Board
Kathe Musolf, Marquette Township Clerk

AIRPORT ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Two Vacancies – 3-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/04
Fran Roberts, Forsyth Township
Ricky C. Wilson, Sands Township

ROAD COMMISSION
Two Vacancies – One Partial Term Expiring 12/31/02 and One Partial Term Expiring 12/31/04
Bob Carpenter, Ely Township
Robert L. Pecotte, Chocolay Township

COMMISSION ON AGING
Seven Vacancies – 3-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/04
Four Expert/Interested Citizen Category and Three Senior Category
Expert/Interested Category
Craig Chartier, Marquette City
Chris Erbisch, Marquette City
Judith A. Krause, Negaunee Township
Susan Goodkind Wideman, Negaunee Township

Senior Category
Lois Hamel, Humboldt Township
Lorraine D. Palmer, Champion Township
Edith E. Prosen, Marquette City

MARQUETTE COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
Three – 3-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/04 and One Partial Term Expiring 12/31/03
One – Negaunee City Representative
One – Marquette City Representative
Two – Township Association Representatives (One Regular/One Partial Term)
Tony Tollefson, Marquette City Representative
Richard Wills, Negaunee City Representative
John Olson, Michigamme Township
Bob Atkins, Marquette Township

MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
Two 3-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/04
Joan L. Haara, Ishpeming City
Karol Launier Peterson, Marquette Township
PLANNING COMMISSION
Two 3-Year Terms Expiring 12/31/04
Lynn Coelhoorn, Chocolay Township
Kenneth W. Salo, Republic Township

LATE ADDITIONS

11a) Comm. Tuominen noted the County Road Association of Michigan has been reviewing a package of bills that would change the tax collection point for diesel fuel, increase the Commercial Diesel Fuel Tax, and eliminate the sales tax credit. This proposal would generate $36 million of new revenue from the elimination of the sales tax credit on commercial diesel fuel, however $30 million would go to MDOT leaving only $6 million in the Critical Bridge Fund. The Michigan County Road Association supports the diesel tax increase but opposes the diversion of these funds to MDOT and urges these monies be run through the normal Michigan Transportation Fund (MTF) formula.

Comm. Tuominen further noted the Marquette County Road Commission faces serious budget difficulties. On December 3rd the Marquette County Road Commission adopted a preliminary 2002 budget calling for significant downsizing and reduction of jobs over the next several years. The State’s recent budget cuts combined with the lack of adequate growth and gas tax revenues to keep up with inflation means that Marquette County will fall behind in an effort to combat the pothole problem that brought about the 1997 gas tax increase. If the $36 million is passed through the normal MTF formula then the Marquette County Road Commission could receive an additional $151,734 per year which would help offset some of the loss from budget cuts. MDOT would still receive almost $13 million by utilizing the appropriate formula.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Seppenen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board direct the Chairperson to write a letter to our Legislators requesting this package of bills that would change the tax collection point for diesel fuel and increase the Commercial Fuel Tax, and eliminate the sales tax credit be distributed through the normal MTF formula.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment, none was forthcoming.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

On behalf of the County Board of Commissioners and County Staff and Employees, Chairperson Corkin wished all County citizens Happy Holidays.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, December 18, 2001, 7:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. CALL TO ORDER - SALUTE TO THE FLAG - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
5. REVIEW OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS.
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. Letter from Congressman Bart Stupak Congratulating Chairperson Corkin on Recently Being Presented the Honorary Ambassador Award.
   b. Acknowledgement from State Senator Don Koivisto regarding Marquette County Resolution Supporting "Tax Base Protection for Townships."
   c. Legislative Alert from County Road Association of Michigan regarding HB 5337.
   d. Letter from Ishpeming Township regarding Road Commission Appointment.
   e. Hillsdale County Resolution regarding Term Limits.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
   a. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve an Agreement with Great Lakes Recovery Centers for Community Corrections Services.
   b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Send a Letter to the MSHD Office of Community Development in Lansing Expressing Concerns regarding the New Guidelines for Housing Resource Funds.
   c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Send a Letter in Support of "Rails to Trails."
   d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Lease Agreement for Sawyer Building 741 with LSCP/EDC.
   e. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Heat Conversion Contract with Pro-Therm, Inc. for Various Sawyer Buildings.
   f. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve an Asbestos Removal Contract with Certified Abatement Services for Sawyer Building 727 and portions of Sawyer Building 725.
   g. Construction Bid for Sawyer Building 813 Asbestos Tile Removal.
   h. Sawyer Electrical Distribution System.
   i. Appointments to Various County Boards and Commissions.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
   a. Deise / Field Pat.
   b. Deise / Field Pat.
   c. Deise / Field Pat.
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.