The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, January 8, 2002, 6:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Courthouse, Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on December 26, 2001 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following additions: Item 12) Central Dispatch Radio Console Furniture Purchase.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period December 28, 2001 through December 31, 2001 in the amount of $139,920.58 be approved.

The Committee considered an Amendment to the FY 2001 Family Support Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement with the State of Michigan. Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted the State frequently amends such agreements. In this particular case the amendment means Marquette County will receive an additional $14,129 for Family Support services. The Agreement has been reviewed by legal counsel and staff recommends its approval.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Amended FY 2001 Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement between the State of Michigan Family Independence Agency and the County of Marquette for an additional $14,129 for Family Support.

The Committee considered a letter from Congressman Bart Stupak regarding Federal Legislation on Airline Security and an update from Hal Pawley, SIABC Director.

Chairperson Corkin read portions of Congressman Stupak's letter which outlines a number of issues addressed by the Aviation Security Bill (Senate Bill 1447) which includes: Professionalizing 18,000 airport screeners, requiring cockpit doors to be strengthened, allow pilots to be armed if trained and certified and have airline approval, and also requiring individuals seeking flight instruction to submit to background checks. The legislation also contains $1.5 billion over the next two fiscal years to reimburse airports for additional security.

Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, noted this legislation has numerous new requirements which will definitely improve airport and airline security, however many of these requirements for the airports and airlines will be costly. The $1.5 billion referred to by Congressman Stupak has no attached appropriation bill to go with the legislation even though the security measures must be enacted by the airlines and airports. It is not yet known how extensive or expensive these security requirements will be and some can be paid for with AIP funding, however this is not new funding dollars, and AIP funding designated for other projects which would have to be put on hold.

Mr. Pawley further noted on a more positive note, Congress has enacted $175 million through the Department of Defense to reimburse airports for security expenses that occurred right after the September 11th attack. He just received notice from the FAA that submittal of reimbursement claims must be done by January 18, 2002. Most of Marquette County's expenses were experienced by the Sheriff's Department for the additional security at SIA. The total national security expenses far surpasses the $175 million so Marquette County probably will not get 100% but partial reimbursement on a prorated basis.

Chairperson Corkin requested that Hal Pawley keep the County Board updated on the implementation of the requirements and financial effects.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board send our Congressional Delegation a letter urging them to take action to appropriate the $1.5 billion for reimbursement to airports for additional security.
The Committee considered an update on KJ Processing property sale, the KJ Processing IRP Loan, and the KJ Processing Lease Agreement.

Barry Bahrmann, KJ Processing, noted they are very close to closing on the sale of the property. He has received a draft of the County deed and the equipment is onsite and ready to go. KJ Processing has created a parcel inside of the larger parcel for the purpose of preparing a deed. This was done to create a property description for a deed while MDOT is continuing to reconfigure the road and right-of-ways. Mr. Bahrmann noted the delays getting to this point were not his fault nor the County’s fault.

Harley Andrews, Civil Counsel, explained Mr. Bahrmann’s mortgage company requires that the KJ Processing name be on the deed. The delay has been in waiting for two documents, one known as the Declaration of Restrictive Covenants, and the other known as the Grant of Easement. The restrictive covenants used by the Air Force had to be reformatted to include the Michigan DEQ Environmental Assessments. The two documents were initiated in June but took until December 5th or 6th for them to be received by Marquette County. The documents were recorded in the Register of Deed’s Office on December 7th and copies forwarded back to the necessary parties.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted that Staff recommends the following regarding the KJ Processing loan and lease.

1) Loan and Lease payments be deferred until the property sale closes.
2) The deferrals are for no more than 90 days starting January 16th.
3) For the Loan, payment of past due interest is required by January 16th and interest on future payments is required, and
4) The County reserves the right to modify or terminate the deferrals at any time.

It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Moore, and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph), that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Staff recommendations regarding the sale and lease of property at KJ Sawyer to KJ Processing.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that an update on Sawyer Unmetered Electrical Costs be accepted and placed on file.

The Committee considered a Sawyer Marketing Proposal entitled “The Big Business Center-Creating a New Economy with Yesterday’s Buildings”. This proposal was presented to the Committee of the Whole several weeks ago which included entering into a Marketing Agreement with Ernst & Young not to exceed $75,000 for the marketing of the SAGE Building at Sawyer. The proposal basically provides for a nationwide RFP for companies interested in building a business at Sawyer rent-free. The only restriction would be that the company must create 400 jobs or more and retain the jobs for a five-year period. If this requirement is met Marquette County will relinquish the deed to property to the company at no charge.

Vikki Kulju, SIABC Marketing Director, has since spoke with several prospects regarding the SAGE Building. She is confident that Marquette County, with the help of its EDC, could market and generate interest in the building without spending $75,000 to hire an outside company. Ms. Kulju noted it is not the $75,000 that concerns her. She is now confident that the marketing can be done “in house.”

Steve Powers, County Administrator, also supports the idea of marketing the Sawyer SAGE Building in house but noted there may come a time when outside help would be necessary.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the concept of creating “The Big Business Center” and market the Sawyer SAGE Building “in house”.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that a Notice from the Michigan DEQ/DNR announcing the First Comprehensive Report Charting Michigan’s Environmental Trends has been released. (Report copy in Commissioner mailroom).

The Committee considered a Central Dispatch Radio Console Furniture Order. Joe Van Oosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, was present and explained he is requesting the County Board give approval to place an order for Dispatch furniture with Viking Acoustical Corp. for a total cost of $64,767.01. At the time the order is placed it must include a check for one-third of the amount or $21,589.
Viking Acoustical Corp. is located near Minneapolis and Jeff Nelson, Central Dispatch Consultant, has provided advice on which components to be necessary, desirable, and undesirable. On December 17th Lt. Benaglio, MSP, Jeff Nelson, and Mr. Van Oosterhout traveled to the Viking Acoustical Corp. factory in Lakeview, Minnesota to review firsthand the products they had to offer. They also visited three communication centers including the Minnesota State Patrol. Minnesota conducted a 2-year study of consoles (especially ergonomics) and awarded the Minnesota State bid to Viking. All dispatchers they spoke to loved the new consoles.

Mr. Van Oosterhout noted the budget for this project has already been approved and Marquette County has received a $200,000 grant so actually 75% of the cost of the equipment ($48,575) will be paid out of federal funds. Mr. Van Oosterhout explained that when the State Police saw that Central Dispatch was planning to order new consoles they want to order the same consoles for their dispatch positions, however they are under contract with Motorola. Central Dispatch negotiated a deal with the State Police whereby the State Police would purchase the County's radio equipment and we in turn would purchase the consoles. Marquette County actually comes out ahead because the radio equipment costs for Marquette come to $64,000 which does not include the console furniture so Marquette County could have been spending approximately $92,000. The agreement with the State Police saves over $27,000.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Central Dispatch Radio Console Furniture Order with Viking Acoustical Corp. as recommended by Joe Van Oosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager.

* * * * *

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

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin noted there will be ribbon cutting ceremony tomorrow, January 9th, at the Sawyer International Airport Business Center, 9:00 a.m., for the SIA Passenger Bridges.

Chairperson Corkin also noted that Operation Action U.P. will be meeting at Northern Michigan University on Friday.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
8. Update on KI Processing Lease.
9. Update on Sawyer Unmetered Electrical Costs.
12. [Handwritten: Radio Console Furniture (Central Dispatch)]
13. 
14. 
15. PUBLIC COMMENT.
16. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
17. ADJOURNMENT.