The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Wednesday, February 12, 2003, 6:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 W. Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on January 28, 2003 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved as presented.

It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period January 31, 2003 through February 6, 2003 in the amount of $351,622.51 and payroll for the period ending February 1, 2003 in the amount of $619,187.28 be approved.

The Committee considered an Engineering Services Agreement with URS Corporation for an Exhibit A Property Map of land and facilities located within the SIA boundary (public benefit transfer).

Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, was present and explained that in July, 2001 the County Board approved an Engineering Services Agreement with URS Corporation for three projects funded with FY 2001 AIP/MAP Grant Funds. This grant also included funding for an Exhibit A Property Map, however the property map could not be done until the field surveying of the Airport perimeter and parcels was completed.

FAA requires Marquette County to have an Exhibit A Property Map. The map is a detailed drawing to scale of all the land and facilities within the Airport boundary; all rights-of-way, easements, etc., all parcels of land within the boundary; and detailed information on the acquisition of each parcel.

The fee for preparation of the detailed drawings and property information is $6,000 which requires a 10% local share match for the project which Mr. Pawley recommends to come from sale proceeds from the previous Marquette County Airport. There is approximately $55,000 remaining in these funds for future projects. The Bureau of Aeronautics has provided approval of the Agreement Amendment which also states that the costs are reasonable for the services to be provided by URS Corporation.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve of the Amendment to the Engineering Services Agreement with URS Corporation an authorize the Chairperson to execute the Agreement.

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The Committee considered an Amendment to the IRP Loan Terms with CANUSA, Inc. Comm. Arsenault, Chairperson of the IRP Loan Committee noted the County Board approved an IRP Loan in the amount of $75,000 with CANUSA, Inc. The current balance is $58,000. The Board also approved interest only payments for January through June of 2002.

CANUSA has now requested interest only payments for January 15, February 15, and March 15, 2003 and modifications to the Lease. The IRP Loan Committee met on February 5, 2003 and unanimously voted to grant the interest only request provided CANUSA can elaborate on what the Company intends to do in the immediate future to correct their financial condition.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve the Amendment to the IRP Loan Terms with CANUSA, Inc. to allow interest only payments for January 15, February 15, and March 15, 2003 under the condition that there be a review and approval of the CANUSA, Inc. Budget Control Plan.

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The Committee considered an Amendment to the Lease Agreement with CANUSA, Inc. as recommended by the IRP Loan Committee.
Marquette County entered into a Lease Agreement with CANUSA, Inc. effective June 1, 2001 for approximately 12,953 sq. ft. located in Sawyer Building 431 and a few ancillary facilities. This lease expires May 31, 2005 and has a current rental rate of $3 psf which would increase to $3.25 psf in 2004.

CANUSA has had financial difficulties and as a result have implemented a plan to expand into a niche market and have secured four conditional contracts from proposed vendors. The Company will be using approximately $180,000 from its sister company to purchase a dry kiln; upgrading a planer to process lumber at a faster rate; and install a tilt hoist and stacker to process wood more efficiently. The County is being asked to assist them with the plant's growth by lease restructuring.

The proposed lease terms are as follows:

- **Lease expiration** – extend current expiration date to May 31, 2009
- **Rental rates effective**
  - June 1, 2003 $2.40 per sq. ft.
  - June 1, 2004 $3 per sq. ft.
  - June 1, 2005 $3.25 per sq. ft.
  - June 1, 2006 through 2008 $3.50 per sq. ft.

The extended term and incremental rate increases will have a positive effect on the SIA Business Plan.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve the Amended Lease Agreement with CANUSA, Inc. to expire May 31, 2009 as per terms outlined.

The Committee considered the most recent draft of the Hazard Mitigation Plan prepared by the Marquette County Resource Management/Development Department Staff and reviewed by the Marquette County Planning Commission for the County Sheriff's Department Emergency Management Division.

Pat Gruber, Planner, was present and explained that in 2001 Emergency Management Coordinator Mike Zorza received a grant from the Flood Mitigation Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency amounting to $28,650 which was supplemented by Emergency Management Budget funds of $25,000 to prepare the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Ms. Gruber noted on January 9, 2003 recent amendments to the Michigan County Planning Act came into effect and created new statutory procedures for the adoption of the County Plan. Part of the new requirements include the creation of a notification list that includes each city or township located within the County, the Regional Planning Commission, each public utility company, railroad company, and any governmental entity that registers its name for the purpose of reviewing draft plans.

The Marquette County Planning Commission has set a tentative public hearing date for the Hazard Mitigation Plan of May 7, 2003. They are presenting the draft of the Hazard Mitigation Plan to this Committee of the Whole meeting and recommend the County Board adopt a Resolution to approve the distribution of the Hazard Mitigation Plan for Marquette County for review and comment and furthermore, that the County Board agrees to be adopting authority for the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the County of Marquette after the 65 day period for review and comment required by the Planning Act.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve the Resolution for the Distribution of the Hazard Mitigation Plan and the County Board will act as the adopting authority when it is time to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan for Marquette County.

The Committee considered a 2% gaming revenue donation to AMCAB "Meals While You Heal" from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The Sault Tribe has made out a $3,000 check to Marquette County in anticipation of the process/resolution that must occur for the Alger-Marquette Community Action Board Nutritional Services Program to receive the grant funds.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians 2% Gaming Revenue of $3,000 for the AMCAB Nutritional Services Program by adopting the appropriate resolution and acting as the contractual agency.

The Committee considered future 2% gaming revenues for nonprofit agencies.
Steve Powers, County Administrator, requested policy guidance from the County Board as to whether or not they wish to continue to consider 2% gaming revenues to nonprofits in FY 2003. Civil Counsel Cheryl Hill noted gaming revenues utilizing the Marquette County Board of Commissioners as the pass-through agency must be provided to nonprofit organizations on a contractual basis.

It was moved by Comm. Girard, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board continue to consider and act as a contractual agent for 2% gaming revenues for nonprofit organizations in Marquette County.

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

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

Chairperson Corkin reported on the Michigan Association of Counties Conference held in Lansing. The main topic of discussion was the State’s budget crisis. Governor Granholm spoke at the MAC Conference and noted the State has estimated a $1.9 billion deficit for FY 2004. Marquette County’s 2003 budget may remain intact, however we can expect a 10% to 15% cut in revenue sharing for 2004 which would translate into a reduction of $150,000 - $250,000.

Comm. Cihak noted Governor Granholm is preparing every citizen in the State of Michigan, especially County Boards of Commissioners, that all of us will in some way be affected by the budget deficit. This may also be an opportunity for State and local governments to find ways to operate more efficiently.

Comm. Nordeen noted one aspect of the State budget crisis will be the consolidation of the Michigan DEQ and the Michigan DNR. This is a concern because the State may close the DNR fire station located in Gwinn.

Civil Counsel Cheryl Hill provided a draft of the Prosecutor’s request to the Michigan Attorney General for an opinion regarding the Marquette County Smoking Ordinance.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the request for an AG Opinion be placed on the County Board meeting next week.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 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.
6. Engineering Services Agreement with URS Corporation for an Exhibit A Property Map of Land and Facilities within SIA Boundary. (PBT)
7. Amendment of IRP Loan Terms with CANUSA, Inc.
8. Amendment of Lease Agreement with CANUSA, Inc.
10. Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians 2% Gaming Revenue Pass Through ($3,000) for “Meals While You Heal.”
11. 
12. 
13. 
14. PUBLIC COMMENT.
15. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
16. ADJOURNMENT.