The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, April 22, 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. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on April 8, 2003 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Kevin Kenney, Great Lakes Roofing, explained that his firm was the low bidder for the insulation and roofing project for the five large nosedock hangars at Sawyer. The bid is being recommended to be awarded to the second highest bidder. Mr. Kenney contended the original bid was ambiguous as to the type of roofing system. His firm bid a mechanically fastened roof system with a 15 year guarantee. Mr. Kenney introduced Trevor Wagster from Duralast Roofing.

Mr. Wagster noted their mechanically fastened roof system meets all of the specifications and requirements regarding wind shear, strength, and reflective qualities. The other contractors are guaranteeing their roof for 10 years, however Duralast Roofing provides a 100% guarantee for 15 years on materials and labor. Their roofing system has been approved for the YMCA and has been successfully installed on many buildings.

Chairperson Corkin noted Mr. Kenny and Mr. Wagster may speak when the agenda item comes up.

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

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following addition: Item 14) Contract Award for Renovations to Five Large Nosedock Hangars, Item 15) Contract Award for the Purchase of a Front End Loader/Sweeper, and Item 16) Contract Award for the Purchase of Two Snowplow Trucks.

It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period April 11, 2003 through April 16, 2003 in the amount of $3,292,767.53 and payroll ending April 12, 2003 in the amount of $589,862.67 be approved.

Gary Dahlke, Central Lake Superior Watership Partnership (CLSWP), and Mike Farrell, Marquette County Drain Commissioner, presented an award to the County Board from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Mr. Dahlke attended an award ceremony in Washington D.C. on behalf of Marquette County two weeks ago. The ceremony was held at the EPA headquarters and 72 units of government from all over the United States were recognized as “Clean Water Partners”. Mr. Dahlke noted Marquette County has some of the best programs among all those being presented with awards. He thanked the County Board for its continuing support of the Central Lake Superior Watership Partnership.

Mr. Dahlke presented the plaque he received in Washington D.D. on behalf of Marquette County to Chairperson Corkin. The plaque recognizes Marquette County with a “Clean Water Partnership Award for the 21st Century.”

Chairperson Corkin thanked Gary Dahlke for attending the award presentation in Washington D.C. and also commended Mike Farrell, Marquette County Drain Commissioner for his work with the Central Lake Superior Watership Partnership.

Pat Manley, Register of Deeds, provided a review of her forthcoming request for approval of land records software. Register Manley noted she has been investigating land record software for two years. The present system will no longer be technically supported after 2004. She has been working with Brent Nault and several other counties and invited three software vendors to come to Marquette County to demonstrate their systems. She has narrowed her choice down to Fidlar Doubleday. Their company provides a user friendly system with excellent support at the best price.

Register Manley noted in December 2002 legislation was passed which provides for a recording fee increase of $5 to be utilized for automation improvements. The law took effect on March 31, 2003 and the new line item accounts will be approved by the County Board in the First Quarter Budget Amendments. The Register of Deeds will collect $5 for the recording of each document which will generate revenues for the last nine months of 2003 of $85,000. An additional dollar will be added to each recording fee and placed in the County’s General Fund which will generate $17,000 for the remainder of 2003. This legislation will be in effect for the next four years, however the monies must be used for technological enhancements for Register of Deeds Offices. Register Manley must report the expenditure of all funds to the State.
Register Manley further reported that Cheryl Hill, Assistant Prosecutor, has been helping her with drafting an Agreement with Fidlar Doubleday. Once the agreement is complete she would like to move forward with the purchase of the software, hopefully by June 1st. The initial software cost is $51,000 with a $32,000 per year support. In addition, the hardware for this system must be purchased, however that will be bid out. The new land record software will fit in well with the GIS system and consumers will be able to access the land record system via the internet for a fee. It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote to accept the information for file.

The Committee considered a Grant Agreement with the Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics for Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Training. Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, was present and explained that in order to maintain FAA certification the Sawyer Airport Rescue and Firefighting personnel must perform annual update training under live fire conditions. The BOA has a mobile trainer operated by Kellogg Community Collegewhich travels around Michigan airports to provide the training. In addition, BOA provides grantfunding assistance up to a maximum of $4,000. The estimated cost of training at Sawyer is $5,500. The BOA will pay $4,000 of the cost and the $1,500 balance will be paid with funds budgeted for FY 2003. The FAA certification is contingent on conducting a full-scale disaster exercise which will be done on June 17th using propane fueled aircraft mockup training. It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve the Grant Agreement with the Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics for the Airport Rescue and Firefighting Training by adopting the appropriate resolution authorizing the Chairperson to execute the agreement.

The Committee considered the Sawyer International Airport and Business Center Quarterly Report. Anne Giroux, SIABC Finance Manager, was present to answer questions. It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote to accept and place the report on file.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Staff for audit services. Sue Vercoe, Finance Manager, explained that in 2000 RFP’s for Audit Services were received from two firms. The low proposal was submitted by Anderson, Tackman & Company with a 3-year cost of $57,200. The audit of FY 2002 is underway which is the last year of the audit contract. Anderson, Tackman & Company is willing to extend the current contract for an additional one to two years with an annual increase of 3%.

Staff recommends acceptance of the proposal from Anderson, Tackman & Company to extend the current contract for two years. The financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2002 will utilize the same reporting format as in previous years, however in 2003 the Financial Report will be issued using the new GASB-34 reporting guidelines. The County is facing a number of significant accounting changes and a complex conversion process and Anderson Tackman has been assisting us with the initial conversion process. It will be helpful to continue with a firm that has a good understanding of our current financial activities. Their fee for each of the next two years will be less than the annual fees proposed by the competitive proposal in 2000.

Comm. Joseph expressed concerns about waiving the bid process and extending the contract with Anderson, Tackman & Company. He has no problem with the services provided by Anderson, Tackman & Company, they do a very good job, however he does not believes the County should get into the habit of waiving the competitive bidding process. It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph) that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve an agreement with Anderson, Tackman & Company to extend their current contract for two additional years with an annual increase of 3%.

The Committee considered the First Quarter Budget Amendments. Sue Vercoe, Finance Manager, was present and noted all departments were requested to review their revenues and expenditures. These recommended budget amendments were prepared based upon requests and information from all departments.
The First Quarter Budget Amendments include the following funds: #1 - General Fund, #2 - Airport Fund, #3 - KI Sawyer Development Fund, #4 - Caretaker Fund, #5 - Public Improvement Fund, #6 - S.O.D.A. Fund, #7 - Central Dispatch, #8 - Building Authority, #9 - Commission on Aging, #10 - Friend of the Court, #11 - Remonumentation Fund, #12 - Register of Deeds Automation Fund (new fund), and #13 - FIA Baraga Account (new fund). All of these budget amendments will appear in the minutes in line item detail after approval at the May 6, 2003 County Board Meeting.

Sue Vercoe answered questions and provided some highlights regarding the First Quarter Budget Amendments. General Fund increases include hospitalization costs, the original budget included a 15% increase, however County costs were increased by 25%. The increase has been partially offset by coverage changes for elected officials, managers, and retirees.

General Fund savings are reflected in the Circuit Court budget. Judge Solka’s Court Reporter resigned and he proposes changing to a video court recording system. Details of this change will be presented at the May 6th Board Meeting. Human Resource/Risk Management Budget has been reduced by $27,000 resulting in the permanent transfer of Scott Erbisch to the Sawyer Business Center. The tax and parcel administration salary line item has been increased by $15,000 to cover temporary GIS mapping project employees. The Central Dispatch Board has approved a $15,000 transfer to the General Fund for this project.

General Fund payments to the DeFant Building Fund will be waived this year providing a $29,807 in savings. State Revenue Sharing and Single Business Inventory Tax has been decreased by $96,000 and the 2004 budget decisions may be further impacted. The decrease in State revenue has been offset by other revenue increases which include ADC incentive increase by $35,000, Register of Deeds filing fees increase by $17,000, Central Dispatch transfer $15,000, and an estimated $40,000 refund of prior year BCBS premiums.

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 First Quarter Budget Amendments as presented by Staff.

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The Committee considered a letter from Mindy Koch, Chief, Forest Mineral and Fire Management Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, regarding the consolidation of DNR Field Offices and how it would affect firefighting capabilities.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote to place the communication on file.

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The Committee considered the Great Lakes Recovery Center submittal of an RFP to the Federal Bureau of Prisons for a Community Corrections Center (CCC), or “Halfway House” services for federal offenders being released to the Upper Peninsula. A letter from Bruce Guardini, Executive Director, Great Lakes Recovery Centers, notes this action is being taken in response to an RFP issued by the Federal Bureau of Prisons which encourages full and open competition in the procurement of these services. As part of the BOP contracting process all bidders must notify and seek input from the local law enforcement authority and two levels of locally collected government officials. This letter serves as documentation of partial satisfaction for these requirements.

Federal offenders at the CCC will come from three sources: Inmates who are transferred from a prison to a CCC for prerelease programming, inmates who are committed directly to the CCC to serve short sentences, and offenders under the supervision of the U.S. Probation Office for whom residents at a CCC is a condition of supervision. The average CCC placement is three to four months in length. The Great Lakes Recovery Center is requesting the County Board of Commissioners to express its support or concerns about this proposed CCC facility.

Mr. Guardini noted the total term of the proposed contract is for five years with an estimated requirement specifying 5,854 bed days for males and 1,463 bed days for females. The proposed site will be able to accommodate up to 12 offenders, and the BOP may exceed its original estimates if there is an unanticipated need for additional space. CCC services are scheduled to begin November 12th with the contract award being approximately 120 days prior to that date.

Comm. Cihak requested he be allowed to abstain from voting on this issue because he works part-time for Great Lakes Recovery Centers.
It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes to 1 Abstain (Comm. Cihak) that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board provide a letter of support for the Great Lakes Recovery Centers Request for Proposals to provide Community Corrections Center Services for Federal Offenders being released to the Upper Peninsula.

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The Committee considered the recommendation for Contract Award for renovations to five large Sawyer nose dock hangars. Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, was present and explained the County received FY 2002 AIP/MAP Grant funding for this project in the amount of $1,233,000. The work consists of adding insulation and fully adhered EPDM membrane roof over the existing roof; and insulating panels to the exterior wall surfaces.

Six bids were received, however the lowest bid is for a mechanically fastened roof system, not the system specified in the bid package. The contractor (Great Lakes Roofing) was informed prior to the bid opening we would not consider a bid for an alternate system, therefore its bid for a mechanically fastened roof would be considered a non-responsive bid. The other five bidders prices were for the roofing system specified in the bid package.

Staff recommends the award of the contract to the lowest bidder for the specified system, Roy Ness Contracting & Sales in the amount of $969,500. The grant funding available is more than adequate to cover the 90% federal share of the project. The 10% local share match of $123,300 will be funded from sale proceeds from the former Marquette County Airport.

Trevor Wagester, Duralast Roofing, noted they bid the premier mechanical fastening system. It meets all specifications required and they are providing a 15-year warranty. Mr. Wagester also contended he attempted to contact Mr. Malenowski, the Architect, on several occasions and his calls were never returned. In his opinion the bid specifications were not clear.

Steve Schenden, SIABC Project Manager, noted there was some confusion on the original bid specifications, however an addendum to the bid was provided to the contractors and the addendum only referred to the fully adhered system, not the mechanically fastened system.

Commissioners asked questions of Staff and discussed the bid award at length. Mr. Pawley pointed out the bid documents also note the County has the right to reject any or all bids and opposed any notion that the project be rebid.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that this contract award for renovations to five large Sawyer nose dock hangars be forwarded to the County Board Meeting on May 6th without a Committee recommendation.

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The Committee considered the Contract Award for a all wheel drive front end loader/sweeper for Sawyer. Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, was present and noted one of the projects in the FY 2002 AIP/MAP Grant funding is for the purchase of a front end loader/sweeper. Attachments include an eight cubic yard snow bucket, a four cubic yard general purpose bucket, and a sweeper attachment. The grant funding available is $172,000. The recommendation is to award the contract to the low bidder, Miller-Bradford and Risberg of Negaunee in the amount of $160,227. The federal share of the project is 90% with the 10% local share to come from Passenger Facility Charges in the amount of $16,023.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board recommend the County Board approve the contract award to the low bidder, Miller-Bradford and Risberg of Negaunee for an all wheel drive front end loader/sweeper in the amount of $160,227.

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The Committee considered a contract award for the purchase of two snowplow trucks for Sawyer International Airport. Hal Pawley, SIABC Director, was present and noted the trucks will be heavy duty all wheel drive 45,000 pound GVW rated, forward mounted cab, and rear mounted engine with auxiliary power units. Attachments for each truck are a 20 foot long power reversible strait blade plow; a rotating rollover plow; and power reversal underbody scraper. Grant funding available amounts to $800,000 which is more than adequate to cover the 90% federal share of the project. The project low bidder is Industrial Marketing and Consulting of Gwinn in the amount of $558,306 for two Oshkosh Snowplow Trucks. The 10% local share of $55,830 will be collected by Passenger Facility Charges.
It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole Recommend the County Board approve of the Contract Award for two SIA snowplow trucks with the low bidder, Industrial Marketing Consulting of Gwinn, in the amount of $558, 506.

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

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

Chairperson Corkin reported he attended a Public Hearing in Escanaba regarding the Michigan EDC budget. He gave testimony and about 100 people attended the public hearing and it was very informative.

Comm. Tuominen noted UPCAP Services is refunding the 2003 UPCAP County dues to each of the 15 counties in the Upper Peninsula. The County will receive a check in the amount of $1,500.

Comm. Cihak attended a MAC Judiciary Committee Meeting last Friday in Lansing. The Michigan Department of Corrections and the Michigan Sheriff’s Association have reached an agreement and will continue the jail reimbursement for OUIL 3rd offenders for all Michigan counties.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, reported the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has approved a $1 million grant to the Great Lakes Recovery Centers for a 4-year participation in the Foundation’s program “Communities Helping Teens Overcome Drugs, Alcohol, and Crime.”

Administrator Powers also reported Forsyth Township is proceeding to rezone the property that was previously Sands Township. Forsyth Township will be holding a public hearing on May 1st and the County Planning Commission will review and comment on the proposed rezoning.

Comm. Nordeen reported on a recent meeting he attended regarding the Teaching Family Homes.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried on a roll call vote 9 Ayes (Comm. Tuominen, Arsenault, Bergdahl, Cihak, Girard, Joseph, Nordeen, Wallace, and Corkin) to 0 Nays that the Committee go into Closed Session to discuss pending litigation RE: Middleton vs. Marquette County.

Chairperson Corkin declared a brief recess at 7:22 P.M. to clear Commission Chambers.

..........................................................................................CLOSED SESSION..........................................................................................

The Committee of the Whole came back into open session at 8:10 P.M.
No action was forthcoming as a result of the Closed Session.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, April 22, 2003, 6:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD ON APRIL 8, 2003.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Presentation by Gary Dahlke and Carl Lindquist, Central Lake Superior Watership
Partnership, of the Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Recognizing
Marquette County as a “Clean Water Partner for the 21st Century.”
7. Request by Register Pat Manley for Approval of Land Records Software. (No Packet
Materials).
8. Approval of Grant Agreement for Airport Rescue and Firefighting Training.
11. First Quarter Budget Amendments. (Materials Forthcoming at Meeting).
12. Information from Michigan DNR, Fire Management Division, regarding Consolidation
of DNR Field Offices.
13. Great Lakes Recovery Center Submittal of RFP to Federal Bureau of Prisons for
“Halfway House” Services for Federal Offenders Being Released to the Upper
Peninsula.
14. Sawyer Contract — S nose docks hangers $949,070
15. Sawyer Contract — Front end loader $160,227
16. Sawyer Contract — 2 snow plows $558,506
17. PUBLIC COMMENT.
18. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
19. CLOSED SESSION To Discuss Pending Litigation RE: Middleton vs. Marquette
County. CLOSED SESSION To Discuss Pending Litigation RE: Middleton vs.
Marquette County.
20. ADJOURNMENT.