The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, August 26, 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 August 12, 2003 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Nneena Weyer Ittner, Director U. P. Children's Museum, Catherine Peters, Marquette Township resident, Jean Braman, Powell Township, Gail Griffith, Professor of Chemistry, and Kristin Williamson, all spoke in favor of the proposed revised Marquette County Health Department regulation prohibiting smoking in the public and private workplace.

Mike Lovelace, Marquette County Sheriff, was present and addressed the County Board regarding the proposed budget cuts. Sheriff Lovelace explained that he wants to impress upon the County Board the severe impact the Marquette County Sheriff's Office will suffer should they decide to follow the County Administrator's recommended 2004 budget proposal. He feels the impact is so severe that he finds it absolutely necessary that Commissioners understand the extent to which the loss of services will be to the Sheriff's Department and more importantly all of the people of Marquette County. Sheriff Lovelace distributed to Commissioners a handout outlining just some of the Constitutional mandates of the Office of Sheriff. The Administrator's recommended cut to the Marquette County Sheriff's Office is $822,302 or approximately 82% of the entire 2004 County budget deficit. He explained that $822,302 equates to the loss of 13 positions within his office. This is in addition to the loss of a road patrol sergeant who is retiring this year and the most certain loss of a road patrol deputy that is being hired by the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms Agency. He cannot emphasis enough that it will be impossible to service this County with only 4 general fund road patrol deputies. Sheriff Lovelace explained to Commissioners the positions impacted by the Administrator's budget cuts. Sheriff Lovelace stated he cannot emphasis enough that his office is presently operating at what he considers to be a severely understaffed road patrol division and absolute minimal staffing in all of the divisions. He again reiterated that his office is willing to take its fair share of the cuts necessary to balance the budget but strongly suggests that they be shared equally among all the County departments not just the Sheriff's Department.

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

It was moved by Comm Cihak., seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following additions: Item 14 Grant Offer for MAP (Military Airports Program) Funded Projects; and Item 15 Grant Offer for AIP Funded Project.

It was moved by Comm. Nordeen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period August 15, 2003, through August 21, 2003 in the amount of $949,416.03 and the bi-weekly payroll for the period ending August 16, 2003 in the amount of $588,521.53 be approved.

The Committee considered the Ishpeming District Court Lease. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the County and Pioneer Square are in agreement regarding the amount of space (5,675 square feet) and the security improvements. Where they are not in agreement and need direction from the County Board is in regard to the length of the lease. Mr. Powers recommends a five-year lease with a five-year extension. If the five-year lease with five-year extension is unacceptable to Pioneer Square, his alternative would be a ten-year lease with a seven-year opt-out.

Fred Grandchamp, CPA with Grandchamp and McBride, representing Pioneer Square, explained to Commissioners that the five-year lease with five-year extension as proposed by the County Administrator is unacceptable to Pioneer Square. He presented Commissioners with Option A. Option A includes modifications needed;

Clerk's Office:

1. Remove existing door to hallway from Clerk's Office and have an open entrance way - Pioneer Square to provide all necessary material and labor.

2. Add a floor-to-ceiling security wall that runs from the wall between the Clerk's Office and the Magistrate to the existing counter. The new wall would be near the inner door to the Magistrate's Office. The new wall would have a door with an electronic release
for entry into the Clerk’s Office – the materials and labor would be provided by Pioneer Square.

3. Install security glass with a push-through tray into the counter of the Clerk’s Office – the County will pay for the materials and Pioneer Square will provide the labor.

Probation Office:

1. Install combination lock at the entrance to the Probation/Judge’s Office – Pioneer Square will pay for and install.

2. Install security glass in the Probation Office with a push-through tray – County pays for materials and Pioneer Square provides the labor.

Additional Information:

Pioneer Square will continue to allow the County to keep their computer servers in the electrical room for no additional charge.

Lease Terms – Ten (10) year with payment as follows:

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<td>1</td>
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Cancellation Clause:

The County may cancel the Lease in any year after six years by paying the following amounts with the notice to cancel: Year 7 – 1 years rent; Year 8 – 9 months rent; Year 9 – 6 months rent; Year 10 – 3 months rent.

Approximate square footage rented – 5,675

Terms of the Lease to be exactly the same as the current Lease with the exception of the above points.


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The Committee considered the revised Marquette County Health Department regulation prohibiting smoking in the public and private workplace and enclosed public places, not including bars and restaurants.

Carol Margriff, Regional Manager, American Lung Association of Michigan, 227 West Washington Street, Marquette, Caroline Anderson, 982 Co. Rd 480, Donita Moisio, 6 Oak Ridge Hill, Sands Township, Dr. Richard Imm, Stone Quarry Drive, Marquette, former member of the United States Air Force, Natasha Gill, Drug Prevention, and Jim Harrington, Health Educator, all spoke in favor of the smoking ordinance.

Debbie Pellow, President, Marquette County Townships Association, spoke against the proposed ordinance. She feels the County Board has no jurisdiction over township halls.

Commissioners engaged in a discussion regarding the proposed smoking ordinance and State law regulations already in place.


Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for a Public Hearing regarding closeout of the AMR and ACN CDBG Projects. Marquette County has received funding from the Michigan Strategic Fund (Community Development Block Grant) for two grants to build and improve infrastructure at Sawyer (former Air Force Base). One of the grants was used for the AMR Eagle infrastructure project, and the other grant was used for infrastructure improvements related to the Superior Extrusions, Inc. and ACN projects. Construction of the
CDBG-funded improvements is complete, and closeout of these projects is anticipated. The purpose of this hearing is to accept public comments regarding these projects.

Chairperson Corkin opened the hearing for comments regarding the closeout. There being no comments forthcoming, Chairperson Corkin closed the public hearing on the AMR and ACN CDBG projects.

The Committee considered the Sanitary Sewer Vacuum Truck Lease Agreement from Scott H. Erbisch, Director of Operations, SIABC.

County staff is recommending that the County and the Air Force sign this Agreement replacing the current sanitary sewer vacuum truck. After the first year, which will be paid by the Air Force, the Security Lease Agreement can be severed at any time without penalty. The current 5-year lease will cease upon signing this new agreement. By signing this agreement, the County will receive a brand new sanitary sewer truck, related equipment, and warranty. The new truck will cost an additional $546 per year. This is a valuable piece of equipment for the operations of the sanitary sewer system and is currently included in the 2004 water and sewer budget projections.

The Air Force granted approval to enter into the new lease. Since the lease agreement can be severed without penalty after one year, there is little risk to the County.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and carried on a roll call vote 8 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph) that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Lease Agreement for the Sanitary Sewer Vacuum Truck.

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The Committee considered the Wellhead Protection Plan Technical Work, presented by Bill Rowe, Resource Management Development Department. On July 18, 2003, staff out an RFP and associated Scope of Work to nine potential bidders for the technical work portion of the Wellhead Protection Plan at Sawyer. Responses to the RFP were due on Friday, August 15, 2003, at 4:00 p.m. The County received five responsive bids, and one non-responsive bid. A spreadsheet was distributed detailing the responses from the various firms, which include staff ranking of the responses. While the bid ranked number six has the lowest dollar amounts staff felt as though the proposal was non-responsive in several ways: their bid came in mid-day on Monday, August 18, 2003, three days after the deadline; they did not properly respond to the RFP guidelines regarding numbers of copies to be sent; their bid was also lacking some of the required outputs of the RFP and Scope of Work, including the production of GIS layers representing the information.

This portion of the Wellhead Protection Plan will be paid for through three sources. The AFBCA has pledged $15,000 towards this project, which will cover approximately half of the total cost. The MDEQ will pay for one-half of the total cost ($15,397) through the 2004 Wellhead Protection Grant that the County of Marquette was recently awarded. Lastly, the remaining $398 will be paid for by the County with money that is already budgeted for this project. Through the ranking process, staff recommends awarding the contract to Wilcox Associates of Escanaba with their total bid of $30,795 ($19,050 for task 1 and $11,745 for task 2). They had the lowest bid that was received on time, and they appear to meet all of the criteria set forth in the RFP and Scope of Work.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board award the contract for Wellhead Protection Plan Technical Work to Wilcox Associates of Escanaba with their total bid of $30,795.

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The Committee considered the Airport Awareness Grant. The Michigan Department of Transportation operates the Michigan Air Service Grant Program to increase airport awareness amongst the flying public. Marquette County has participated in this program prior to moving to Sawyer and since moving to Sawyer. Sawyer International Airport has applied for and has received the maximum award of $22,222. No cash local match is required. Prior to receiving the award, the County Board must enter into the contract agreeing to the terms of the grant and provide a certified Resolution authorizing the Chairperson to sign the contract.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Nordean, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board instruct Civil Counsel to review the agreements and upon satisfactory review, direct the Chairperson to execute such contract; and, direct the County Clerk to attest to said execution of the Airport Awareness Grant.

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The Committee considered the Sawyer International Airport and Business Center Financial and Passenger Reports. It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Bergdahl, and unanimously carried by voice vote the Committee of the Whole accept the SIABC Financial and Passenger Reports for filing.

The Committee considered an Agreement with the Transportation Security Administration. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the cost of using the Sheriff’s Department to provide security exceeded federal airport security funds, and to continue a security presence at the terminal, Keith Kaspari, Airport Manager, met with the Transportation Security Administration to discuss options. The amount of funds and restrictions on the funds made continued use of the Sheriff’s Department impractical (the estimated cost for the Sheriff’s Department to provide the security services is $193,000).

Mr. Kaspari began investigating the use of a private security company. Two proposals were received. Both are within the funding amount.

The recommendation is two step:

1. Approve Law Enforcement Personnel Reimbursement Agreement between the Transportation Security Administration and the County of Marquette; and

2. At a future meeting, approve the agreement with the security company to provide TSA-required on-site security services.

The armed security guards will act as responders for the required 20 minute response. Should a situation require an arrest, the armed security will detain until a law enforcement officer arrives.

Accepting the TSA Reimbursement Agreement will allow the County to contract with a security company. Review of the proposals, contract decisions, and reference checks indicate that a private security company will be cost effective. In addition to terminal security, possible services include perimeter inspections, air carrier inspections, and airport patrols.

There is no County match. The Federal Transportation Security Administration will provide funds to Sawyer International Airport and Business Center funds for security services. The estimated costs, based on quotes from two security companies, is less than the amount TSA has allocated to SIABC. For federal fiscal year 2004, TSA has allocated $138,000. The amount increases in federal fiscal years 2005, 2006, and 2007.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the reimbursable agreement with the Transportation Security Administration.

The Committee considered the Grant offer for MAP (Military Airports Program) Funded Projects. Staff received verbal notice in early July that Marquette County d/b/a Sawyer International Airport was being programmed as the recipient of approximately $1,275,300 in MAP funding for three projects:

1. Expansion of the existing Fuel Farm Facility;
2. Demolition of hangar 668; and
3. Rehabilitate (insulation) of existing air field hangar(s)

Recently, the Airport Manager received verbal notice that the funding has receive OST (Office of the Secretary of Transportation) clearance for dissemination of the Grant Offer. Grant Offer 3-26-0153-1303 is 90-10 split, with the sponsor matching funds coming from the sale of the former County Airport. A recent change has stipulated that the State of Michigan will no longer provide the former 5% match for projects utilizing MAP funding.

Staff recommends the County Board approve and sign the Grant.

It was moved by Comm. Cihak, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the grant offer for Military Airports Program Funded Projects and authorize the Chairperson to sign the original and copies and forward it to MDOT’s office in Lansing confirming that the grant offer has been accepted.
The Committee considered the Grant Offer for AIP Funded Projects from Keith Kaspari, C.M., Airport Manager. As a result of a discussion between Airport Staff, Sawyer’s Engineering Consultant (URS Greiner), and Irene Porter, Manager of the FAA’s Airport District Office in Detroit, staff proceeded with bidding the ARFF/SRE project as it was determined that Marquette County placed itself in a better position to receive end-of-the-year fallback discretionary funding if the County had bids in hand. As a result, Staff received verbal notice in early August that Sawyer International Airport was programmed as a recipient of $4,758,267 in AIP discretionary funding for the following project: Construction of a combination Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) and Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) storage and maintenance facility.

Late Friday afternoon, August 22, 2003, staff received verbal notice that all Grant Offers must be signed, accepted, and received by the FAA by the closure of business Friday, August 29, 2003. The FAA’s Detroit office anticipates receiving OST (Office of the Secretary of Transportation) clearance for dissemination of the grant offer on Monday, August 25, 2003. Grant Offer 3-26-0153-1403 is a 90 – 5 – 5 split.

It is anticipated that Sawyer will utilize its remaining FY-03 entitlement funds at $351,000 for a revised total of $5,109,917. Combined with the 5% share by the County (proceeds from the collection of Passenger Facility Charges or PFC’s) and the 5% share by MDOT each estimated at $283,885, the final total is approximately $5,677,686 in available funding. Depending on the project cost, Sawyer may be expected to utilize its FY 2004 entitlement monies of $1,000,000. However, Staff has already projected this funding be directed to other critically needed airport projects and equipment. Staff recommends that the County Board approve the grant offer.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the Grant Offer for the AIP Funded Project as presented.

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Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Debbie Pellow, Tilden Township Supervisor, Lowell Larson, Sr., and Jack Schneider, Undersheriff, reiterated Sheriff’s Lovelace’s comments in opposition to the proposed cuts to the Marquette County Sheriff’s Department.

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Brannam
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, August 26, 2003, 6:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. District Court Lease.
7. Smoking Ordinance.
11. Airport Awareness Grant.
12. Sawyer Financial and Passenger Reports.
14. Grant Offer for AP
15. ""
16. ""
17. PUBLIC COMMENT.
18. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
19. ADJOURNMENT.