The Marquette County Board of Commissioners held their Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 21, 2003, at 7:00 P.M., in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, 234 West Baraga Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.

Chairperson Corkin called the meeting to order. Present: Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Cihak, Comm. Nordeen, Comm. Tuominen, Comm. Wallace, and Comm. Corkin. Absent and Excused: Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Girard, and Comm. Joseph.

A Salute to the Flag was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 7, 2003 be approved.

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND AWARDS

Chairperson Corkin read the following resolution in observance of November 2003 as Alzheimer's Disease Month:

Marquette County
Hereby Issues this Executive Declaration
in Observance of

November 2003
as

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE MONTH

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive, degenerative disorder that attacks the brain and results in impaired memory, thinking and behavior, ultimately leaving its victims totally incapable of caring for themselves; and

WHEREAS, the eighth leading cause of death in adults, Alzheimer's disease claims more than 100,000 lives annually, affecting males and females, ethnic and socioeconomic groups equally; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are over four million adults in the United States with Alzheimer's disease, including over 166,000 people in Michigan alone; and

WHEREAS, many encouraging drug treatments have been introduced which significantly delay the onset of disease symptoms, improving the quality of life for those afflicted and reducing the strain on caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Marquette County in the State of Michigan is pleased to join with the Alzheimer's Association Michigan State Council in observing a month to address the need for information and assistance in dealing with the eventually eradicating this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, Marquette County does hereby declare the month of November 2003 as ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE MONTH in Michigan.

Given under my hand on this day in the year
of our Lord two thousand and three.

Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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A memo was received from Phyllis Loonsfoot, Shelter Director, Harbor House Domestic Violence Shelter, regarding October being Domestic Violence Awareness Month. A Vigil will be held on October 21, 2003 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Marquette.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Nordeen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period October 10, 2003 through October 16, 2003 in the amount of $508,756.51 and bi-weekly payroll for the period ending October 11, 2003 in the amount of $562,916.75 be approved.

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

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

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

a. Memo from Deborah Hodge-Morgan, Administrator, State of Michigan FIA, regarding Receipt of Marquette County Family Court Request to Transfer Funds Within the In Home Care Components.
b. Communication from Henry L. Green, Executive Director, Department of Consumer and Industry Services, regarding Sixth Legislative Report on the Activities and the Progress of Survey and Remonumentation in the State of Michigan.

ACTION ITEMS

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

10b) Support of Funding Application for Bahrman's Blue Ribbon Dairy.

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Support Alger County regarding the Hiawatha National Forest Plan.

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Courthouse Ceiling and Wall Repairs – RFP Recommendation.

10f) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the MDOT Agreement, Bureau of Aeronautics as follows:

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF THE CONTRACT AGREEMENT BY THE MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN, AND THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING FEDERAL AND STATE AID FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAWYER AIRPORT, UNDER SPONSOR CONTRACT NO. 2003-0635.

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Marquette County, Michigan:

Section I. That the Board of Commissioners of Marquette County, Michigan shall enter into a Contract Agreement for the development of Sawyer International Airport, and that such Contract Agreement shall be as set forth hereinafter;

Section II. That the Chairperson of Marquette County Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized and directed toe execute said Contract Agreement on behalf of the County of Marquette, Michigan, and the County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to attest said execution;

Section III. That the Contract Agreement referred to herein shall be as attached.

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10g) Grant Application for Lake Superior Community Partnership's Proposal for the Rural Community Development Initiative – Noquemanon Trail Network Plan.

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ACTION ITEMS CONTINUED

10a) The County Board considered a County proposition for millage for continuation of Marquette County Transit Authority (MARQ-TRAN). Robert Niemi, Executive Director of MARQ-TRAN, was present to discuss the millage request. The request is for .6 of a mill for continuing operation of MARQ-TRAN. Commissioners questioned whether the money generated from this millage would be used for the new MARQ-TRAN building. Mr. Niemi assured the Commissioners that the money for the building is for capital improvements and not operating expenses and MARQ-TRAN is taking every opportunity to clarify this issue with the public.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm.Cihak, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve the requested millage proposal language as follows: "To provide local funds for the continuing operation of the Marquette County Transit Authority (MARQ-TRAN), on all property within the County of Marquette, Michigan, shall the total amount of ad valorem taxes collected be increased by six-tenths (.6) of a mill ($0.60 per $1,000.00 Taxable Valuation of real and taxable personal property) for a period of five (5) years, from 2004-2008, both years inclusive? (The taxes collected the first year would amount to approximately $836,000)."

10c) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole recommendation regarding a request from Karen Anderson on behalf of the Sawyer Operations Authority, to allow use of a portion of the recreation fields as a BMX track. The area is undeveloped property, in close proximity to the Airport Terminal, in a tax free zone, and with utilities available. The land's highest and best use is commercial. Commissioners discussed allowing BMX to use the proposed property until it is developed or until such time as the County gives them notice to vacate. There are no immediate plans for development. Comm. Tuominen amended his motion to remove "with the current zoning".

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 of a 2-year license agreement for the approximately two acre parcel, ball field property, for use by North State BMX, and further, that the license agreement include a 30-day termination clause.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

James Gallant, Skandia, addressed the Commissioners regarding the Friend of the Court Advisory Commission.

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

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Nordeen questioned the status of the ORV ordinance. Comm. Tuominen offered to provide an update to the Board on the ORV ordinance. The Ordinance has been forwarded to Chippewa County as they also have a similar ordinance. Chippewa County has been asked to comment, provide input, etc., within the next 30 days. Any Commissioner may also provide comments or input individually.

Comm. Cihak advised that following the MAC meeting, he found out that 25 percent of all manufacturing jobs lost in this country have been lost in the State of Michigan.

Comm. Cihak also mentioned that Oakland County had offered an early out as an option in their budget process. Comm. Cihak asked if this was considered or could be considered as a possible option for Marquette County. Steve Powers, County Administrator, stated that while this has been looked at, at least conceptually, it probably would not work for Marquette County due to, among other things, the number retiring and number of new employees being hired. Comm. Wallace also commented that this was used at the University, and it was not overly successful there either.

There being no further business to come before the County Board, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie A. Skytta

Laurie A. Skytta
Marquette County Deputy Clerk

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MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 21, 2003, 7:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. CALL TO ORDER - SALUTE TO THE FLAG - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 7, 2003.
3. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
   a. Alzheimer's Disease Month.
   b. Domestic Violence Awareness Vigil.
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. Memo from Deborah Hodge-Morgan, Administrator, State of Michigan FIA, regarding Receipt of Marquette County Family Court Request to Transfer Funds Within the In Home Care Components.
   b. Communication from Henry L. Green, Executive Director, Department of Consumer and Industry Services, regarding Sixth Legislative Report on the Activities and the Progress of Survey and Remonumentation in the State of Michigan.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
    a. County Proposition for Millage for Continuation of Marquette County Transit Authority (MARQ-TRAN).
    b. Support of Funding Application for Bahrman's Blue Ribbon Dairy.
    c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a 2-Year License Agreement for Use by North State BMX at Sawyer.
    d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Support Alger County regarding the Hiawatha National Forest Plan.
    e. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Courthouse Ceiling and Wall Repairs – RFP Recommendation.
    f. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the MDOT Agreement, Bureau of Aeronautics.
    g. Grant Application for Lake Superior Community Partnership's Proposal for the Rural Community Development Initiative – Noquemanon Trail Network Plan.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a.
    b.
    c.
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.

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