May 24, 1982

Honorable Chair and Members of the
Marquette County Board of Commissioners
Marquette, Michigan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

A meeting of your Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee was duly called and held on May 24, 1982 and copies of the minutes of that meeting have been furnished to all members of the Board of Commissioners and a copy of the minutes is attached hereto and made a part of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

ENVIRONMENT, LANDS & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Chair

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May 24, 1982

Honorable Chair and Members of the
Marquette County Board of Commissioners
Marquette, Michigan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On October 7, 1982 the Marquette County Board of Commissioners acted to
direct the Marquette County Planning Commission to prepare a comprehensive
study/plan containing alternative recommendations for the future uses
of the Brookridge property and facilities. Upon completion, the study/plan was to be submitted to the Environment, Lands and Buildings
Committee to determine, and recommend to the County Board, a long term
disposition of the facility and property. The Planning Commission’s
report has been received and reviewed by the Environment, Lands and
Buildings Committee, a copy of which has been furnished to each member
of the Board of Commissioners. As you know, the report contained background
information, structural analysis, cost information, land management
plan, and potential uses of the facility and adjacent property.

As a result of the Committee’s review of the report, it is their
recommendation that the current caretaker arrangement for the Brookridge
facility be continued until August 1, 1982, and during that time the County
Board, through the Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee, attempt
to lease the facility as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

ENVIRONMENT, LANDS & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

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May 24, 1982

Honorable Chair and Members of the
Marquette County Board of Commissioners
Marquette, Michigan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As you know, on May 5, 1982 the Marquette County Board of Commissioners received a copy of a memo from Patricia L. Micklow, Chief Civil Counsel, to the Forestry Commission on proposed Forestry Commission bylaws, a Soil Conservation District contract with the County for the purchase and planting of seedlings, and a Standard Form Timber Sales Contract. At that time the County Board directed that the Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee review the materials and submit a recommendation on them to the County Board.

The Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee reviewed the materials on May 24, 1982. It is your Committee's recommendation that the County Board approve:

1. The proposed Forestry Commission bylaws;

2. The contract between the County and the Soil Conservation District for the purchase and planting of 100,000 trees on county lands;

3. The standard form agreement for the harvesting and purchase of timber.

The Forestry Commission members have been informed of the Committee's recommendation and were asked to submit any comments they may have on the item by June 16, 1982, the date which the Board would be considering the Committee's recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

ENVIRONMENT, LANDS & BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

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Chair
May 24, 1982

Honorable Chair and Members of the
Marquette County Board of Commissioners
Marquette, Michigan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

You will remember, as a result of inquiries from the public, the County Board, on May 19, 1982, directed its Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee to review the attendance record of individual members of the Marquette County Solid Waste Planning Committee, the appointment of Mr. Ray Roberts to replace Mr. Jack Arnold on that Committee, and to report back to the County Board on May 26, 1982. At that same time, the County Board also directed that a letter be sent to Mr. Robert Taylor asking for his resignation from that Committee as he apparently no longer intended to participate in the Committee’s proceedings.

Your Committee discussed this matter on May 24, 1982 and reviewed information provided to them on the composition, attendance and appointment of the Solid Waste Planning Committee by Ronald Koshorek, Planning Commission. A review of past County Board minutes concerning appointments to that Committee was also conducted.

Based on the Committee’s review and discussion, they submit the following:

a. That a communication has been sent to Mr. Robert Taylor asking him to submit a letter of resignation from the Solid Waste Planning Committee;

b. That Mr. Ray Roberts was appointed to the Solid Waste Planning Committee by the County Board on February 4, 1981 to replace Mr. Jack Arnold.

c. That your Committee does not believe any other members of the Solid Waste Planning Committee should be removed.

Further, your Committee recommends that as soon as Mr. Taylor’s resignation from the Solid Waste Planning Committee is received the County Board fill the vacancy per the County Board’s appointment policy.

Respectfully submitted,

ENVIRONMENT, LANDS AND BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Chair
May 24, 1982

The Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee meeting was duly called and held on May 24, 1982 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Farrell, Racine, Steele, and Villeneuve.

Absent: Commissioner Cheatham.

In Attendance: John Beerling, Superintendent/Engineer, Road Commission; Les Ross, Planning Commission; Duane Beard, Controller; Linc Poley, Architect; and Jim Boutell.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Steele.

Approval of the minutes of the April 5 and May 3 meetings was the first order of business. It was moved by Commissioner Villeneuve, supported by Commissioner Racine and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 5 and May 3 meetings as presented.

The public comment section was opened. No one present wished to speak during the section and it was closed.

Approval of the agenda was the next item. Duane Beard noted Linc Poley was planning to attend the meeting to give a status report on the renovation project. He also said he prepared, per Committee direction, cost estimates on closing Brookridge, demolishing the building, and continuing the caretaker arrangement. It was moved by Commissioner Racine, supported by Commissioner Villeneuve and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the above additions.

John Beerling, Road Commission, was present to discuss his communication to the County Board on mapping of right-of-ways not incorporated into the county road system in 1941. The communication was referred to the Committee by the Board. The letter was received in response to a Board request that a map of such right-of-ways be prepared. Mr. Beerling asked because of staff limitations if the mapping could be done on an "as needed" basis.

Beerling said the problem encountered by Sidney Holman with the ownership of an abandoned county right-of-way crossing his property, which prompted the Board's request, has not to his knowledge occurred before. He said he would like to handle these types of requests on an individual basis, and was not sure mapping would be a solution for future occurrences of this type. He noted administrative positions at the Road Commission have been reduced from twelve in 1968 to seven in 1982, including a reduction of five of the engineering staff, thus increasing the remaining staff members' workload. He questioned whether the need for the maps warranted the work preparing them would entail.

Commissioner Farrell said a concern with county liability for the abandoned right-of-ways prompted the request for the maps. He said since the time of the Board's request, Chief Civil Counsel determined that the county does not have liability in this matter and therefore further action is not needed. The communication was placed on file. John Beerling left the meeting.
Linc Poley, Architect, was present to give a status report on the Courthouse renovation project. He said a pre-bid meeting was held with interested contractors and sub-contractors. He is planning to have a second meeting on June 1. The Committee briefly discussed potential bidders for the project, and bidding requirements.

Copies of communications from Judge Anderegg to Linc Poley on a vault for the Probate Court Office in the Annex were read. Judge Anderegg noted he had $100 budgeted for an analysis of the vault construction. Duane Beard said lack of a vault for that office is an operational problem. It was noted the vault is in the capital improvements program for 1985 but that the capital improvements program is not funded beyond 1982.

It was moved by Commissioner Racine, supported by Commissioner Villeneuve and carried unanimously to ask Lincoln Poley, Architect, to work with the Judge on conducting a study on vault construction for the $100 budgeted for that purpose.

A communication from the Michigan Judicial Coordinating Committee on its Michigan Courthouse Study Report was presented. A copy of the report was provided Linc Poley for his information.

Linc Poley said bids for the renovation project will be opened on June 8 and suggested the Committee plan a meeting soon after the opening of the bids. The Committee decided to hold a meeting in conjunction with the bid openings, at 4:00 p.m., June 8, 1982 in the Commissioners Room.

Commissioner Farrell suggested the Board Chair and Controller meet with department heads on inconveniences that will occur during the renovation project. Conducting a meeting with employees was also mentioned. Commissioner Racine said he, as Board Chair, would see that a meeting of department heads and employees is scheduled to inform them of inconveniences that may occur because of the renovation of the courthouse. Linc Poley then left the meeting.

Les Ross, Planning Commission, was present to discuss the Planning Commission's report on the Brookridge facility. The Controller presented cost estimates, per the Committee's request, on mothballing the building, demolishing it, or continuing the caretaker arrangements. Commissioner Steele believed the facility should be mothballed and that a final decision on the facility should be made by the end of June, 1982. Beard noted that since the cost of continuing the caretaker arrangement would not be as expensive during the summer months, because of lower fuel costs, etc., it may not be a bad idea to continue that arrangement through August. Beard said other options, such as leasing, should be considered. Leasing would eliminate county maintenance costs.

Les Ross said the facility has been inspected and found to be essentially sound. He said the county may run into zongin problems with the City of Marquette if tenants are sought for the facility. Ross said 'change of use' problems in terms of the Building Code and barrier free must be considered also. Commissioner Farrell said because of the cost of renovating the building and utility costs it may be best to tear it down.
Following discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Farrell and supported by Commissioner Villeneuve to recommend to the Board that the county continue the caretaker arrangement until August 1, 1982, and that the Board, through the Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee, attempt to lease the facility as soon as possible; and that the Committee pursue newspaper coverage of the facility on possible uses of the building, both public and private; cost of maintaining the facility; etc., so there is some information available to the public before a final decision on its disposition is made. Following discussion the motion carried unanimously.

The report from the Planning Commission on Brookridge was placed on file. Copies of it will be made available to other board members for their information.

It was moved by Commissioner Farrell, supported by Commissioner Villeneuve and carried unanimously to send a letter to the Planning Commission to thank them for preparing the report. Les Ross left the meeting.

A memo was received from Ron Koshorek, Planning Commission, on people appointed to the Solid Waste Planning Committee, and their attendance record. The Board asked the Committee to report back to them on May 26, 1982 on attendance of members of that Committee, and procedures used to appoint Ray Roberts to the Committee. It was noted that Ray Roberts was appointed by the Board to replace Jack Arnold on February 4, 1981. Commissioner Racine noted the Board has sent a letter to Robert Taylor asking him to submit a letter of resignation from the Solid Waste Planning Committee because he has missed several meetings. The question before the Committee concerns handling attendance of Solid Waste Planning Committee members and the Ray Roberts appointment. Jim Boutell, who has expressed an interest in serving on the Committee, was of the opinion that individuals not attending the meetings should not be on the Committee.

It was moved by Commissioner Farrell and supported by Commissioner Racine to inform the Board that Robert Taylor has been asked to submit a letter of resignation from the Solid Waste Planning Committee; that Mr. Ray Roberts was appointed by the Board to the Committee on February 4, 1981; that the Environment, Lands and Buildings Committee does not believe any other members should be removed from the Solid Waste Planning Committee; and to recommend that as soon as Mr. Taylor's resignation is received the Board appoint a person to fill the vacancy per the rules of the County Board. The motion carried unanimously. Jim Boutell left the meeting.

A communication from John Erickson, Department of Public Health, on the Big Bay Harbor of Refuge water supply system was read. Mr. Erickson stated the design proposals were satisfactory and would be approved upon completion of certain qualifications. Beard read a letter Erickson sent to the engineers of the project for the Committee's information. Beard said Powell Township's supervisor has verbally approved the project, and bid requests have gone out. A copy of Erickson's letter to the Board will be forwarded to the Harbor Commission.
A letter from Sheriff Maino on office space for the Sheriff Department's Narcotics Investigative Unit was read. The Controller was directed to pursue this matter.

A communication from Chief Civil Counsel on proposed Forestry Commission bylaws, Soil Conservation District Contract and Standard Form Timber Sales Contract was presented. This had been referred to the Committee by the Board for review and recommendation. It was moved by Commissioner Farrell, supported by Commissioner Racine and carried unanimously to recommend that the Board adopt the proposed Forestry Commission bylaws, Soil Conservation District Contract and Standard Form Timber Sales Contract. Beard noted the Forestry Commission has not commented on the bylaws. A copy of the bylaws will be sent to each Forestry Commission member for review, asking that they submit their comments on them by the June 16 meeting of the Board, when the Committee's recommendation will be considered. The Committee decided that all recommendations, except for the report on Solid Waste Planning Committee membership, will be presented to the Board on June 16 because of the Project ELF public forum that will be conducted at the June 2 Board meeting.

A letter from Charles Gardner, Michigamme-Spurr First Responders Team, on housing for the R52 vehicle was presented. This had been referred to the Committee by the Board. A letter will be sent to Mr. Gardner informing him of the Board's action concerning housing of the vehicle. Commissioner Farrell suggested that placement of emergency services within the Sheriff's Department be investigated.

A public notice from the Army Corps of Engineers on permits issued/denied for construction on waterways during April, 1982 was noted. It was moved by Commissioner Farrell, supported by Commissioner Villeneuve and carried unanimously to place on file.

A copy of a communication from the Controller to David Svanda, City of Marquette, on use of the Circuit Courtroom on May 25, 1982 was noted.

A UPHSA notice on proposed changes to its Review and Comment Process was noted.

A communication was received from Alan Chase, County Planner, on various A-95 reviews. It was moved by Commissioner Farrell, supported by Commissioner Racine and carried unanimously to support comments of the Commission on Aging on the U.P. Area Agency on Aging project; and support comments of the Planning Commission on the DNR's Coastal Management Program, and Bay de Noc Community College microwave communications system feasibility study.

The Controller provided Committee members an article on the Michigan drain code which appeared in the magazine "Rural Living".

There was no public comment. It was moved by Commissioner Villeneuve, supported by Commissioner Racine and carried unanimously to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Chubb, Commission Aide