The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Special Session on Friday, August 16, 1985 at 5:00 P.M. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skevis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.

Roll was called and the following roll recorded:
Absent and Excused: Comm. DeFant.

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

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, supported by Comm. Berglund and unanimously carried on a roll call vote that the minutes of the August 6, 1985 regular meeting of the County Board be approved.

Chairperson Lowe opened the meeting for public comment. Janice Cain, Marquette County Animal Abuse Officer for the Humane Society, addressed the Board and asked that a letter she had written regarding appropriations for travel funds be taken into consideration. It was moved by Comm. Valente, supported by Comm. Lowe and unanimously carried that the letter be placed on the agenda of the Committee of the Whole meeting that follows. There being no further public comment, Chairperson Lowe closed the public comment section.

The County Board of Commissioners took under consideration approval of the agenda. It was moved by Comm. Roberts, supported by Comm. Valente and unanimously carried that the communication from Peter O'Dovero regarding the Whetstone Brook Drainage District be placed on the agenda as item 8-e and the agenda then be approved.

Chairperson Lowe opened the public hearing for consideration of an application for Michigan Small Cities Grant Business Loan for Diesel Fleet Services, Inc. of Sands Township. Mr. Jack White was present to speak in favor of the approval of the application. Mr. White stated that the Michigan Small Cities Grant would allow Diesel Fleet Services Inc. the opportunity to hire twenty one additional people in a service that rebuilds buses that is profitable both to the operator and to the employee. He felt that with the approval and the granting of the Michigan Small Cities Grant the business would continue to expand. Chairperson Lowe operated the public hearing under Rule 38 of the Rules of Order of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners and allowed County Board of Commissioners to ask questions of both Mr. White and Mr. Conrad Kontio, owner of Diesel Fleet Services, Inc. Comm. Roberts had questions on why are foreign engines being used in the replacement in the renovated buses rather than American made diesel engines. Mr. Kontio explained that the Japanese Isuzu engine had approximately a quality of engine life of three hundred thousand miles as compared with American made engines with approximately one hundred fifty thousand miles. He did state however they were offering Cummins Diesel, Detroit Diesel and International Engines but most customers seem to want the Isuzu Engine. In Mr. Kontio's opinion there was no finer engine made than the Japanese made engine. It was a quality product. Mr. Kontio was questioned as to whether the loan was for working capital to which he replied yes and because of the growth of the business. Commissioners questioned Mr. Kontio as to his employment practices and whether persons from the job program training act would be employed in his business. Mr. Kontio stated that it was his opinion that people would be employed from the job program training act but they did need someone who had the aptitude and could be skillful enough to learn the operation. Mr. Kontio stated that his operation was unique and specialized in that they had to train everyone from the start and there was no established training program available. He expects a long-term business relationship with the employees that would continue after the job partnership training act training ends. When questioned as to whether the nineteen jobs that would be created would be all Marquette County persons. Mr. Kontio stated they would work strictly through the local employment services and the backbone of the people hired would be the local people. When questioned if laid off C.C.I. employees who were capable of doing diesel mechanic work would be hired, Mr. Kontio replied it depends on how specialized they are and if the person has the ability he could work as a apprentice until he becomes a full standard mechanic. In his opinion no one from the street could become a standard mechanic without the training. A questions of wages being paid were asked, in which Mr. Kontio felt that the average wage was well over $5.50 an hour. This was questioned by Comm. Roberts who seemed to feel that from the information given in the brochure that an average wage would be under $4.00 per hour. Mr. Kontio persisted that he could guarantee his employees no layoff and a pay check every week.

It was the recommendation of Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, that the County Board approve the application and attached the necessary signatures. The loan would...
be for $50,000.00 from the Michigan Small Cities Grant Business Loan to be repaid to Marquette County over a period of five years at 10% interest. Payments to start immediately on receipt of a loan. Mr. Alola stated that other loans from other individuals would also be available at that time and it was his understanding that the company is expected to expand and stay in Marquette County.

Mr. Jim Alderton, President of the Economic Development Corporation of the County of Marquette, said that in his estimation Diesel Fleet Services had a good business plan and the Economic Development Corporation had helped to participate in the financial package. It was an excellent opportunity to provide diversity of economy base in the County and they are in favor of Mr. Kontio receiving the loan. It was moved by Comm. Valente, supported by Comm. Berglund and unanimously carried that the County Board approve the application for the Michigan Small Cities Grant Business Loan for Diesel Fleet Services, Inc. and that it be submitted to the Dept. of Commerce and that the Board Chair be authorized to sign the necessary documents.

It was moved by Comm. Berglund, supported by Comm. Roberts and unanimously carried on a roll call vote that the following items of information be placed on file:


b. A communication from the Dept. of Management and Budget regarding the Sheriff's Dept. Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Funding for fiscal year beginning October 1, 1985.

c. A communication from the East Marquette Solid Waste Disposal Authority approving the concept of Marquette County's incineration and landfill recommendations.

d. A report of the Dept. of Social Services Annual Inspection of the Marquette County Youth Home.

e. A communication from Peter O'Dovero regarding his thoughts on the Whitestone Brook Drainage District not being necessary.

A communication from the County Clerk, Henry A. Skewis, regarding the County Board of Commissioners concern for a special election to be held to fill a vacancy of the 2nd District Commissioners position vacated by David J. Roberts, was taken under consideration. It was moved by Comm. Berglund, supported by Comm. Valente and unanimously carried on a roll call vote that the County Board request the Special Election Scheduling Committee to take action to approve a special primary election to be held on October 1, 1985 and a special general election to be held on October 22, 1985 for the purpose of electing a county commissioner to the 2nd commissioner district.

There being no further business to come before this Special meeting of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Skewis
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
Friday, August 16, 1985, 5:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. CALLING OF THE ROLL.
2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 6, 1985 REGULAR MEETING.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT.
5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
   a. Public Hearing for consideration of a application of a Michigan Small Cities Grant business loan for Diesel Fleet Services, Inc. of Sands Township.
   b. After close of public hearing - possible action to adopt authorizing resolution and to authorize the Board Chair to sign the Application forms, Statements of Assurances and appropriate certifications.
7. PRIVILEGED COMMENT.
   a.
   b.
8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   b. Communication from Dept. of Management and Budget regarding Sheriff's Dept. Secondary Road Patrol and Traffic Accident Funding for FY beginning October 1, 1985.
   c. Communication from East Marquette Solid Waste Disposal Authority approving the concept of Marquette County's Incineration and Landfill recommendations.
   d. Report of Dept. of Social Services Annual Inspection of the Marquette County Youth Home.
   e. O'Dovero letter on Whetstone Brook Drainage District.

9. ACTION ITEMS:
   a. Request of County Board of Commissioners and application for Special Election to fill vacancy in 2nd Commissioner District.
   b.

10. REPORTS OF SPECIAL & SELECT COMMITTEES:
   a.
   b.

11. LATE ADDITIONS:
   a.
   b.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
   a.
   b.

13. NEW BUSINESS:
   a.
   b.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT.
15. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
16. ADJOURNMENT.