January 14, 1992

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners Executive/Intergovernmental Relations Committee Organizational Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 14, 1992, at 5:15 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI.


Comm. Corkin nominated Comm. Seppainen as Chairperson. No other nominations were forthcoming.

It was moved by Comm. Corkin, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried that Comm. Seppainen be elected Chairperson of the Executive/IGR Committee.

Comm. Corkin nominated Comm. Potvin as Vice-Chairperson. No other nominations were forthcoming.

It was moved by Comm. Corkin, seconded by Comm. Seppainen, and unanimously carried that Comm. Potvin be elected Vice-Chairperson of the Executive/IGR Committee.

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

It was moved by Comm. Corkin, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved as presented.

The Committee considered a memo from Ron Koshorek, Director, Resource Management/Development Department, regarding local zoning and the issuance of building permits. Mr. Koshorek was present and was asked to respond to a complaint from Mr. Robert Beams, Richmond Township, regarding procedures for a local zoning review prior to the County issuing a building permit. Mr. Koshorek described the normal procedure, and that is once the materials and information from the Township indicating that zoning compliance has been met and the authorization is signed by the local official, the County Building Code Department can approve a building permit. Mr. Koshorek related that the County has not had a problem with forged signatures, the system works, perhaps not perfectly; however, the accuracy of a local zoning ordinance review is not under the authority of the County. The County Board could request the names and signatures of local officials who have authority to approve zoning compliance permits.

Civil Counsel, David Payant, concurred with Mr. Koshorek. Local units of government can opt out and develop their own zoning ordinances. It is then their responsibility to provide for zoning review and enforcement. There is no oversight provided for on the County level for a township zoning ordinance.

Robert Beams was present and pointed out he found an Attorney General’s Opinion which indicates the Michigan State Police can enforce a township zoning ordinance. He has filed a complaint with the Michigan State Police
against the Richmond Township Police and Richmond Township Supervisor for
non-enforcement of the township zoning ordinance. He expects to hear from
the Michigan State Police in the near future and is sure the matter will be
turned over to the Marquette County Prosecutor.

It was moved by Comm. Corkin, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously
carried that the Executive/IGR Committee recommend the County Board request
the names and signatures from each local unit of government that has their
own zoning ordinance as to who can review and approve local zoning
compliances prior to the issuance of a building permit.

The Committee considered a request from Marquette Country Trails, Inc.
for a permit to operate a snowmobile trail on land owned by Marquette County
across the Acoks property. Maps were included to provide detail of the
exact location. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, explained that this
route has been used as a trail for several years now, and the County feels
it is appropriate that we legally allow its usage. The request was reviewed
by Jim Kippola, Senior Planner, and Bob Taylor, Employment Programs
Director, who has a contract to develop and groom snowmobile trails, and
also whose department is housed at the Acoks Facility. The request is
recommended for approval.

Bob Taylor was present and explained that this portion of the trail is
relatively straight and approximately one-quarter mile in length. Mr.
Taylor also would prefer that in paragraph 3 of the Trail Permit, the second
sentence, "... the trail will be marked by 'appropriate' signs ... " the
word "appropriate" is too vague. Mr. Taylor suggests that the wording "DNR
approved" signs be substituted.

Also, concern was raised as to whether or not the County has any
authority to establish a speed limit. Mr. Taylor is not aware that speed
limits have been established on any snowmobile in Marquette County. Civil
Counsel will review the matter and amend the Trail Permit language as
suggested.

It was moved by Comm. Corkin, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously
carried that the Executive/IGR Committee recommend the County Board approve
the Marquette Country Trails, Inc. Trails Permit with the amended language
"DNR approved" replacing the word "appropriate" in paragraph 3.

The Committee considered amended language regarding the Smoking Policy
for Marquette County. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, explained that on
July 23, 1991, the County Board adopted a "No Smoking" policy throughout our
buildings, with the exception of Room 13 in the Annex and Room 215 of the
Geraldine Defant Building. The wording change for the Policy Manual is
necessary to concur with these changes.

It was moved by Comm. Corkin, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously
carried that the Executive/IGR Committee recommend the County Board adopt
the revised Smoking Policy for Marquette County 416:1.
Chairperson Seppanen opened the meeting for public comment. Robert Beams, Richmond Township Resident, contended that should the County get copies of signatures of those authorized to approved zoning compliances in the townships, it will be meaningless because all the townships have rubber stamp signatures made. He suggested the County consider a two-week delay in granting building permits. Commissioners felt without due cause this cannot be done, and furthermore building contractors would not stand for any unnecessary delays in the present building permit process. There being no further public comment, Chairperson Seppanen closed this portion of the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EXECUTIVE/INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Tuesday, January 14, 1992, 5:15 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON.
3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON
4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - (None).
5. PUBLIC COMMENT.
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Re 5. A memo from Ron Koshorek, Director, Resource Management, regarding Local Zoning Review Procedures prior to Issuing Building Permits.

Re 6. Snowmobile Trail Permit Request from Marquette Country Trails, Inc.

Re 7. Smoking Policy for Marquette County.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT.
11. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
12. ADJOURNMENT.