The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, July 21, 1992 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan 49855.


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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the minutes of the July 7, 1992 meeting be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Wes Larson, Negaunee Township Supervisor, requested that the County Board keep Negaunee Township informed of any developments regarding the Simmons AMR Expansion, item 10d). There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved with the following additions; item 9d) a letter from the Ishpeming Bell Memorial Hospital to Robert Hicks, Chief, Division of Health Facility Development, Michigan Department of Public Health, regarding the application by Marquette General Hospital for two additional operating rooms; 9e) Comm. Angeli would like to speak about the Lake Superior/Lake Baikal Connection; 9f) Comm. Angeli would like to speak on the County Adopt-A-Road Program; and Late Addition 11a) a memo from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, regarding part-time, specially/grant funded employees wage increases.

Privileged Comment

Mr. Ray Keskimaki, President, and fellow member, Steve Basal, of the Northwoods Trail Blazers, were invited forward by Chairperson Corkin. On behalf of the County Board and citizens of Marquette County, Chairperson Corkin publicly thanked them and the Northwoods Trail Blazers for the cleanup along the Honor Camp Road.

Comm. Potvin further added a thank you for their volunteerism, hopes that their fine work will continue in the future, and asked that Mr. Keskimaki and Mr. Basal extend the County Board thanks to the rest of the Northwoods Trail Blazer members.

Informational Items

It was moved by Comm. Angeli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried that the following Informational Items be accepted and placed on file; 9a) Dept. of Employment Programs Monthly Activity Report; 9b) Acknowledgment from Governor Engler’s Office of receipt of County Board resolution concerning Civil Immunity for Community Corrections Programs; and 9c) Announcement from MAC that Michigan’s Doug Bovin has been elected as NACo’s Third Vice President.

In reference to Informational Item 9c), it was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the County Board extend a letter of congratulations to Doug Bovin and also a thank you to the Marquette County Democratic Party for the contribution to Mr. Bovin’s campaign.

Informational Items Cont’d.

9d) Chairperson Corkin read the following letter from James Ferguson, President/CEO of Bell Memorial Hospital, Ishpeming, to Robert Hicks, at the Michigan Department of Public Health, for the record:

1
Robert Hicks, Chief
Division of Health Facility Development
Michigan Department of Public Health
3423 N. Logan/Martin Luther King Blvd.
P.O. Box 30195
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Hicks:

I am writing in regard to the application of Marquette General Hospital #91-0195 to add two additional operating rooms.

My question has to do with the wisdom of going to the expense of adding additional operating rooms in Marquette County when there are already operating rooms available at Bell Memorial that are debt free. It seems to me that this is one of those projects that Marquette General and Bell Memorial should be doing cooperatively in the spirit of efficient utilization through proper planning.

Bell currently does general, obstetrical, orthopedic, urological, ophthalmologic, and reconstructive surgery. The majority of the physicians listed in the application are also on Bell's medical staff. I would suggest that if you were to request a zip code analysis of their patients, you would see that there is a significant number of patients that fall into primary care categories that seek service in Marquette rather than Ishpeming. Bell maintains that our role should be complimentary to the regional medical center, but not replaced by it.

I would, therefore, respectfully request that you consider Bell’s underutilized operating rooms as you are evaluating Marquette General Hospital’s application rather than duplicating services that will take patients out of Bell’s market area.

Sincerely yours,

James E. Ferguson, FACHE
President/CEO

cc: Governor Engler, Senator Ringle, Representative Davis,
Senator Koivisto, Representative Jacobetti, D. Svanda,
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

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Mr. Dave Edwards, Vice President, Bell Hospital, was present and explained that Marquette General Hospital has applied to the State of Michigan for a Certificate of Need for the construction of two new surgical suites at a cost of $1.9 million. Currently at the Bell Memorial Hospital they have a surgical suite that has no debt associated with it, and therefore would be no corresponding raise in public health care costs. The Certificate of Need review process must use as its criteria the availability of present sites and/or those that could be renovated at a lower cost. Bell Hospital has attempted to work with Marquette General in the past and a series of meetings was held to discuss mutually beneficial and cooperative programs; however, these meetings were discontinued. It appears that Marquette General Hospital's idea of cooperation is either merger or acquisition, but Bell Hospital wants to remain autonomous. Mr. Edwards contended that Bell Hospital wants to find ways to keep health care costs down and hopes the State of Michigan will agree.
It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that the Bell Memorial Hospital letter be placed on file.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried that Chairperson Corkin, on behalf of the County Board, send the following letter to Mr. Robert Hicks at the Michigan Department of Public Health:

Mr. Robert Hicks, Chief
Division of Health Facility Development
Michigan Department of Public Health
3423 N. Logan/Martin Luther King Blvd.
P.O. Box 30195
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Hicks:

Marquette General Hospital has repeatedly given the impression that they do not want to see Bell Memorial Hospital of Ishpeming fail.

Given that premise, it would seem to be in order that the hospitals and your office work diligently to determine ways and means to compliment each other, if at all possible.

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners is not qualified to press for any definitive answer. We feel comfortable asking that you, as a third party, attempt to determine and define a complimentary role for Bell Memorial vis-a-vis Marquette General Hospital.

Respectfully yours,

Gerald O. Corkin
Chairperson

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9e) Comm. Angeli reported that he recently attended a session of the Lake Superior - Lake Baikal Connection. These are citizens of Russia, Canada, and the United States, who have been kayaking around the two largest fresh water lakes in the world, that is Lake Superior and Lake Baikal in Siberia, Russia. Their concerns are primarily environmental. Comm. Angeli presented the Superior/Baikal Connection with a resolution, and in return the Russian Delegation gave Comm. Angeli a bottle of water taken from a 4,000 foot depth in Lake Baikal for display at the Courthouse.

9f) Comm. Angeli would like the public to be aware that Marquette County does have a "Adopt-a-County-Road" Program. Interested citizens or organizations may contact John Beerling at the Marquette County Road Commission (486-4491) for further information.

Action Items

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that Action Items 10b), 10c), 10d), 10e), 10f), 10g), 10j), and 10k), be approved as follows:

10b) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to accept the Office of Highway Safety Planning Grant entitled "Community-wide Youth Impaired Driving Programs" for the first year; however, this is not a commitment to support the project after the first year.
10c) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to add three new members to the Animal Control Committee, namely: Police Chief Lou Morris, Richmond Township; Karen Christopherson, Humane Society Director; and Steven John Pariseau, Marquette.

10d) A Committee of the Whole recommendation that the County Board indicate to the Marquette County EDC that they will seriously consider a bonding proposal to help finance the Simmons AMR Expansion, and further direct Administrator Aloia to discuss funding options with the EDC.

10e) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to adopt a resolution to file a request with the Michigan Department of Treasury for the bonding of the Ishpeming/Negaunee Water Project, resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION TO FILE REQUEST
WITH MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY

WHEREAS, the County of Marquette (the "County") has determined to issue bonds pursuant to Act 185 of the Public Acts of Michigan, 1957, as amended ("Act 185") to defray a portion of the cost of improvements to the Marquette County Water Supply System to provide a new, improved water supply for the Cities of Negaunee and Ishpeming; and

WHEREAS, Act 202 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1934, as amended, ("Act 202") permits the County to apply to the Michigan Department of Treasury for an exception to prior approval by the Department of Treasury to issue the Bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the County Coordinator or County Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to file a "Notice of Intent to Issue and Obligation" with the Michigan Department of Treasury in order to obtain exception from prior State approval for issuance of the Bonds pursuant to Act 185 and Act 202, and the filing of all necessary supporting documentation, and to take such other action as may be necessary to obtain approval for issuance of Bonds by the county in an amount of not to exceed $5,500,000, pursuant to Act 85.

2. That all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby rescinded.

GERALD O. CORKIN, CHAIRPERSON
MARBETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

* * * *

10f) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to interview the top three candidates for the position of Equalization Director, namely: David Gillette, F. William Kerr, and Girard Markey, all of the candidates hold State of Michigan Level IV Certificates in Assessment Administration, and schedule a Special Board meeting for their interview on Wednesday, July 29, 1992 at 8:00 a.m.

10g) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to adopt the 1991 Marquette County Deficit Fund Plan as follows, and further request that the Drain Commissioner, Darryl Sundberg, provide an update on the status of the Badger, Orianna Brook, Raney Creek, and Whetstone drainage projects for inclusion with the Deficit Plan to be transmitted to the State of Michigan:
MARQUETTE COUNTY DEFICIT FUND PLAN - 1991

a) A.M.C.M.H.C. Benefits Internal Service Fund $268,959.00
b) Badger Drain Capital Project Fund 48,402.94
c) Orianna Brook Capital Project Fund 3,280.66
d) Raney Creek Capital Project Fund 1,070.73
e) Whetstone Drain Capital Project Fund 203,922.73

** ** **

10j) RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UPPER PENINSULA REGIONAL DETENTION CENTER (BAY PINES CENTER) IN ESCANABA, MICHIGAN

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners has charged the Marquette County Community Corrections Advisory Board with the responsibility of providing alternatives to jail placement and prison sentences for adults; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners understands the overwhelming correlation between juvenile crime and adult criminality; and

WHEREAS, the Marquette County Board of Commissioners also understands the need to provide jail alternatives for the incarceration of serious juvenile offenders, and the board further understands that the nearest secure juvenile detention facility is 350 miles removed from Marquette County;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Marquette County Board of Commissioners firmly urges the Governor of Michigan and his representatives to complete construction of the promised Upper Peninsula Regional Detention Center, Bay Pines Center, in Escanaba, Michigan.

GERALD O. CORBIN, CHAIRPERSON
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

** ** **

10k) The County Board will request a transcript from the DNR on the hearing held in Skandia Township on July 9, 1992 regarding the Silta Contaminated Soil Remediation Project.

Action Items Cont'd.

10a) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the purchase of the Munising Armory by Community Mental Health and include its purchase in the future bond issue. Comm. Potvin contended that although purchasing is better than renting in the long run, the kind of rent or purchase price that Community Mental Health will pay, other organizations do not pay, therefore he believes the appraisal price to be artificially high.

County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, concurs that it is best to buy rather than rent, but did not review the appraisal. However, a purchase price of approximately $200,000 for a 10,000 sq. ft. building is about $20.00 per sq. ft., which is considerably lower than the new construction costs of $45.00 to $60.00 per sq. ft.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and carried on a roll call vote three ayes to one nay, with Comm. Potvin voting nay, that the County Board include the purchase of the Munising Armory at a price of $202,600 in the future bond issue, contingent upon a written response to the following letter written by Chairperson Corkin on behalf of the County Board:

5
Mr. James K. Haseman, Jr., Director  
State of Michigan  
Department of Mental Health  
Lewis Cass Building  
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Mr. Haseman:

Last night, at the County Board Committee of the Whole meeting, the Board considered adding an additional facility to a proposed bond issue for development of patient care homes for Alger Marquette Community Mental Health. The County Board has already guaranteed $450,000 worth of facility development and is considering an additional $1,600,000 bond issue for future buildings. This was all done with the understanding that the Newberry facility was closing and that patients from the Upper Peninsula were being reintroduced into the community in these new facilities. It was also done with the assurances that funding for the repayment of these loans would be guaranteed by your department. While the Marquette County Board of Commissioners questions whether this is our responsibility rather than the State's, we were willing to put the patients' interest first by making this commitment.

We have worked on the development of these projects and have made substantial progress. While the Installment Purchase Contracts have been approved, the bond issue for approximately $1,600,000 is still pending. We expect to have the appropriate resolutions for consideration within the next two weeks. As you are aware, we have recently received information that indicates that the State Legislature has renewed funding for the Newberry Mental Hospital for this next year. This is contrary to the assurances that we received from Mental Health prior to undertaking this project. We realize that there is a difference of opinion between the Legislature and the Governor on this issue. We are extremely uncomfortable and feel that we are caught in the middle of a political fight. What answers can we give to citizens who question the wisdom of funding two programs, one which was to replace the other? How can we as a County Board be comfortable in pledging our full faith and credit to new facility development when the issue is still apparently undecided.

In addition to the questions of why a dual system has been funded we are concerned about the prospect for continued funding for the repayment of these loans and bonds. The County Board took action last night to ask you to address this issue in writing and provide us guarantees that funding for this development will be forthcoming. In addition, we would like an explanation concerning the direction that this program will take and your assessment of the apparent disagreement between the Legislature and the Governor. We as a County Board have agreed that we will not move forward with bonding for these projects until we have been assured in writing and our questions have been answered. We realize that this may place an unworkable burden on our Mental Health Agency in terms of developing facilities in a timely fashion. We cannot, however, commit taxpayers money to such a development without an assurance of repayment and an explanation of what direction this program will take.

We request your immediate response to this letter.

Sincerely,

Gerald O. Corkin  
Chairperson

* * * * *
10b) The County Board considered a Committee of the Whole recommendation to pay Marquette County’s share for the Court Funding Litigation in the amount of $1,921.00, with the funds to come from Contingency. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, pointed out that the County Board had previously authorized an expenditure of approximately $1,300.00 but had not used the money, therefore the additional funds necessary only amount to $536.00.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried that the County Board approve the payment for the Court Funding Litigation, budget amendment as follows:

**RESOLUTION AMENDING GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

Fiscal Year 1992 Amendment No. 41

WHEREAS, budgets were adopted by the County Board on October 8, 1991, to govern the receipts and expenditures of the various County funds for the next fiscal year of the County; and

WHEREAS, as a result of unanticipated changes in revenues and/or needed expenditures, it is necessary to modify the aforesaid budget; and

WHEREAS, such modification will still maintain a balanced budget between revenues and expenditures as required by P.A. 621 of 1978.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the aforesaid budget be hereby modified as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense Budget Acct.</th>
<th>Previous Budget Amt.</th>
<th>Amended Budget Amt.</th>
<th>Change</th>
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<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Appropriations</td>
<td>1,386.00</td>
<td>1,922.00</td>
<td>536.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Court Funding Litigation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency Account</td>
<td>97,762.00</td>
<td>97,226.00</td>
<td>(536.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure Changes</td>
<td>99,148.00</td>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Changes Made</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue Changes</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Motion was made by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, to adopt the foregoing resolution. Upon roll call vote, the following vote was recorded:

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<tr>
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<th>Aye</th>
<th>Nay</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L. Angeli</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. Arsenault</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Potvin</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Seppanen</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Corkin</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Chairperson declared the motion carried and the resolution duly adopted.

** * * * * **
The County Board considered the bids for reconstruction of the Sugar Loaf Mountain stairs system. Ron Koshorek, Director, Resource Management/Development Department, explained that the bids were due at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 14, 1992. Three bids were received and opened at the close of the bidding. A fourth bid was received after the deadline and will be returned unopened should the Board concur. The three timely bids were as follows: P & M Contractors - $59,860.00; Closer Construction - $69,470.00; and Prameau Construction - $106,490.00.

Mr. Koshorek further explained that the low bidder supplied a responsive bid and has the ability to perform the work. Both Mr. Koshorek and ECI Engineering of Ishpeming recommend that the bid be awarded to P & M Contractors, the low bidder of $59,860.00, with a September 30, 1992 completion date.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried that P & M Contractors be awarded the bid for the reconstruction of the Sugar Loaf Mountain stair system in the amount of $59,860.00 as recommended.

Late Additions

The County Board considered a memo from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, regarding wage increases for part-time, specially/grant funded and on-call employees. Administrator Aloia recommends that all the special positions that are within the Collective Bargaining Agreement be granted the same wage improvements and effective date as all members of the union. He further recommends that in all cases, where positions are not represented by Collective Bargaining, that the wage improvement and effective date be the same as the non-union positions. If a grant funded position does not have sufficient funds to meet these increases, he recommends that the increases be kept only at monies available.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried that the wage increases for the part-time, specially/grant funded and on-call employees, be approved as recommended.

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

Commissioner Comments

Comm. Potvin reported that he attended a recent Road Commission meeting as the County Board liaison. The Road Commission finances are in good shape and the road maintenance and repairs are on schedule. However, in some townships citizens have encroached on the County Road right-of-ways with various driveway or property improvements. These may cause some jeopardy for the safety and liability of the Road Commission. As a result notices are being published informing citizens that they must get a permit from the Road Commission to do any construction, driveway improvements, etc., which falls within the County Road right-of-way. For further information contact the Road Commission at 486-4491.

Comm. Potvin reported that the Community Corrections Advisory Board at their next meeting will be considering an application for new grant funding, the object of which will be to keep people in the least expensive way of confinement.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, July 21, 1992, 7:00 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex
Marquette, Michigan 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR
MEETING HELD ON July 7, 1992.
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS. (None)
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
   a. County Board thank you to Mr. Ray Keskimaki, President,
      Northwoods Trail Blazers, for cleaning up the Honor Camp Road.
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   b. Acknowledgment from Governor Engler’s Office of receipt of County
      Board resolution concerning Civil Immunity for Community
      Corrections Programs.
   c. Announcement from MAC that Michigan’s Doug Bovin has been elected
      as NACo’s Third Vice President.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
   a. Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the purchase of
      the Munising Armory by Community Mental Health and include its
      purchase in the future bond issue.
   b. Committee of the Whole recommendation to accept the Office of
      Highway Safety Planning Grant to the Sheriff's Department for the
      "Community-wide Youth Impaired Driving Program."
   c. Committee of the Whole recommendation to add members to the Ad
      Hoc Animal Control Committee.
   d. Committee of the Whole recommendation to consider a bonding
      proposal to help finance the Simmons AMR Expansion.
   e. Committee of the Whole recommendation to file with the Michigan
      Dept. of Treasury to bond the Ishpeming/Negaunee Water Project.
   f. Committee of the Whole recommendation to interview three
      applicants for the Equalization Director position.
   g. Committee of the Whole recommendation to adopt the 1991 Deficit
      Fund Plan and request that Darryll Sundberg, Drain Commissioner,
      provide a status report of various drainage districts.
   h. Committee of the Whole recommendation to pay Marquette County’s
      share of legal fees for the Court Funding Litigation Lawsuit.
   i. Sugar Loaf Mountain stair system reconstruction bids.
   j. Resolution supporting the construction of a Regional Detention
      Center in Escanaba, Michigan.
   k. County Board request for a transcript of the DNR Hearing held in
      Skandia Township held on July 9, 1992 regarding Silta CRS, Inc.
11. LATE ADDITIONS:
   a. (Note: time still)
12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.