The Marquette County Board of Commissioners Executive/Intergovernmental Relations Committee met on Thursday, February 11, 1993 at 4:45 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Seward Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Braasche and unanimously carried that the minutes of the Executive/Intergovernmental meeting held on February 3, 1993 be approved.

Chairperson Bergdahl 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 possible restructuring of the Marquette County EDC. Civil Counsel David Payant explained the two different type of structures a county can use in organizing Economic Development Services.

The Marquette County EDC presently is organized under the Economic Development Corporation Act. This Act requires a minimum of 9 members, with no maximum number, of which 3 members can be County officials. Under this Act, the EDC is a separate corporation. The advantage is that if the EDC is sued in a court of law, the County Board is immune. The disadvantage is that this body is nearly autonomous and the County Board has little authority over it, however, the County Board does have veto power over EDC projects.

Under the EDC Commission Statute, the County Board could appoint a minimum of 5, up to a maximum of 35 members, to an EDC Commission, of which 3 members could be County employees. An EDC Commission could be a County Department or a separate agency with separate employees, but it is not a corporation. Under this statute, the County Board has authority over the body, similar to its relationship with the Planning Commission, however, the County Board could also be held liable in a court action.

The Executive/Intergovernmental Committee and Staff participated in a lengthy discussion regarding the County EDC structure.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Corkin and unanimously carried that the Executive/Intergovernmental Committee recommend to the Committee of the Whole that the County Board appoint three County Commissioners to the EDC Board of Directors, increasing its number to 17 members; that the County agreement with the EDC be reviewed with the intent of providing more accountability and responsiveness from the EDC; and finally, that the County’s annual appropriation to the EDC be capped on a descending financial scale over the next five years.

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE/IGR COMMITTEE
   MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 3, 1993.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Restructuring of the EDC.
   I. Organization
      A. Current Structure - 1. Corporate
         2. EDC - County Agreement
         3. Pros and Cons
      B. Alternative -
         1. Commission
         2. Pros and Cons
   II. Membership
      A. Current 14 members
      B. Other options
   III. Financial Implications
6.
7.
8. PUBLIC COMMENT.
9. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
10. ADJOURNMENT.