The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, February 23, 1993 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on Tuesday, February 9, 1993 and the Executive/Intergovernmental Relations Committee meeting held on Thursday, February 11, 1993 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Arnold Sirtola, Ewing Township Supervisor was present and requested to speak during the discussion on 9-1-1 which is item 7).

There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Angeli and unanimously carried that the agenda be approved with the following additions: Item 17) consideration of a temporary full-time Unit Secretary for the Friend of the Court Office, item 18) a discussion of meeting conflicts and item 19) the Habitat for Humanity.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Bramse and unanimously carried that Claims and Accounts for the period February 6, through February 19, 1993 in the amount of $824,938.51 be approved.

The Committee of the Whole continued with Departmental Introductions. The following Department Heads were present to introduce themselves and give a brief description of the duties and responsibilities of their various departments:

Honorable Michael J. Anderegg, Probate Judge
Barry Sullivan, Director of Children's Services
Hal Pawley, Airport Manager
Honorable Edward A. Quinnell, Circuit Court Judge
Honorable Raymond J. Jason, Circuit Court Judge
Carolyn Hanson, Friend of the Court
Linda Rossberg, Director of Cooperative Extension
Gary L. Walker, Prosecuting Attorney
Nancy DeWees, Director, Department of Social Services

The Committee considered a review of the Delta County 911 plan presented by Pat Gruber, Staff Planner. Ms. Gruber was present and explained that although Delta County is responsible for the development of its own plan, and Marquette County will have no liability, there are approximately 127 telephone subscribers that are affected by the proposed Delta County 911 Plan who live within the boundaries of Marquette County. Also, Marquette County has been asked to review and to respond to the Delta County plan and would like to do so in a constructive and responsible manner.

Ms. Gruber overviewed a number of problems in the Delta County 911 Plan should it be adopted in its present form, as follows:

The Delta County plan addresses only those telephones located in Turin and Ewing Townships. It ignores the portion of Skandia Township which is the Trenary exchange, and the portion of Wells Township which is in the Cornell exchange. These phones would be 911 capable under their Plan, but because they are referred under the wrong unit of government, the wrong service providers would be dispatched.
The Marquette County Sheriff's Department has not been identified as a service provider in Ewing and Turin Townships.

The financial information is very vague and does not provide complete analysis. It has errors in terminology which cause confusion and is not clear whether or not the assessments to the townships made through the Delta County Township Association would also apply to Marquette County Townships.

Present legislation allows use of an operational surcharge only until January 1, 1996 and the Delta County Plan is based upon the assumption that collection of the surcharge will continue indefinitely.

The Delta County Plan indicates that the Gladstone State Police Post and the Menominee PSAP will serve as back-ups, however, the Gladstone Post does not qualify because it is not manned 24 hours, and Menominee County has not been asked to function as a back-up PSAP for Delta County. Their plans for developing a 911 system and PSAP are on hold while they investigate merging with the Dickinson County System.

Delta County will be holding a public hearing on March 3, 1993 and Marquette County's 911 Committee requests that the County Board officially make comments by letter for that public hearing. The next Marquette County Board meeting isn't until March 2, 1993, so Pat Gruber suggested the letter be sent through the Chairperson from the Committee of the Whole so it gets to Delta County on time.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole direct staff to send a letter with Marquette County's comments regarding the Delta County 911 Plan from the Committee of the Whole with the Chairperson's signature, and further recommend that the County Board formally approve the comments at the March 2, 1993 meeting.

The discussion on Marquette County and Delta County's 911 system continued. Arnold Sirtola, Ewing Township Supervisor was present and expressed his township's continuing concern about paying double for 911 service. Comm. Seppanen, the County Board's liaison on the 911 Central Dispatch Committee pointed out that there is legislation pending that will address this issue, however, there must be changes made in the language. At present, the legislation exempts units of government from paying any tax if they are part of one telephone service exchange in a neighboring county while located in another county. In Ewing Township's case, under this legislation, they would pay no tax which is just as wrong as paying a double tax. Hopefully, the legislation will be changed in the near future so that each unit of government will pay only the tax that is required of them.

Comm. Seppanen further reported that Central Dispatch has learned from Jeff Selesky that Dickinson County included Marquette County's 911 system as a secondary back-up to their 911 system. This was done without our knowledge. The matter is being addressed.

The Committee considered a memo from James Rippola, Senior Planner regarding appointment to the Survey and Remonumentation Peer Group. As Marquette County approaches the implementation of the 1993 survey and remonumentation grant, it is necessary for the County Board to appoint the Peer Group. Staff recommends that the Peer Group be established as a standing County Committee, and that the County Clerk make the necessary arrangements to advertise for qualified candidates for the initial filling of vacancies as well as on an annual basis. The Peer Group will meet and act as decision makers for ratifying the corner locations. A majority vote of the eligible members of the Peer Group is required for establishing corners.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS                  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE                  February 23, 1993

The Peer Group will operate informally, however, their meetings must be in compliance with the Open meetings Act. The County Board consensus was that the members of the Peer Group would be paid mileage, however, no compensation in the form of salary or per diem would be provided.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board establish a Marquette County Monumentation and Remonumentation Peer Group as per the County's Remonumentation Plan and that the County Clerk begin the advertising for the appointment process.

The Committee considered a memo from Ron Koskorek, Resource Management Director with recommendations to establish the 1993 fees for the Big Bay Harbor of Refuge. Staff recommends that the County Board keep the seasonal mooring rate at the 1992 level, even though it is slightly lower than the State recommended fee structure. The lower rate is necessary to attract more use for the seasonal mooring facilities.

Staff further recommends that transient mooring rates follow the State fee structure. These fees are commensurate with services offered and are equitable to most harbors of refuge around the state. Also, adopting higher rates would require special approval by the State Waterways Commission.

It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the 1993 fees for the Big Bay Harbor of Refuge as recommended.

The Committee considered a recommendation from the Executive/Inter-governmental Relations Committee that the Committee of the Whole recommend that the County Board appoint 3 County Commissioners to the EDC Board of Directors, increasing its numbers to 17 members; and further that the County agreement with the EDC be reviewed with the intent of providing more accountability from the EDC, and that the County's annual appropriation to the EDC be capped on a descending financial scale over the next 5 years.

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, presented a letter from Edward G. Jeep, Regional Director, U.S. Department of Commerce, Chicago Office, explaining that adding 3 County Commissioners to the EDC Board of Directors would not change the scope of the project. The EDA would have no objection to EDC membership by County Commissioners.

Commissioner consensus was that to recommend the County Board appoint 3 County Commissioners to the EDC Board of Directors, but not forward the rest of the Executive/IGR motion to the County Board. Comm. Potvin disagreed and felt that proper procedure required the Executive/IGR Committee recommendation to be voted on as a whole. If it fails, then no motion would be appropriate to recommend the appointment of 3 County Commissioners. Consensus once again was make a recommendation from the Committee of the Whole to the County Board based on only part of the Executive/IGR motion.

It was moved by Comm. Bergdahl, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the appointment of 3 County Commissioners (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Joseph, and Comm. Trudell) to the EDC Board of directors.

The Committee considered a request from the Marquette County EDC that the County Board appoint 2 Marquette County Officials to the EDC Screening Committee to assist in reviewing applications/credentials for the position of EDC Executive Director. The application deadline for the position ends on February 26, 1993 and the EDC Board would like to have the new Director hired no later than March 30, 1993.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the appointment of Chairperson Corkin and Administrator Aloia to the EDC Screening Committee for the purpose of reviewing applications/credentials for the position of the Executive Director of the Marquette County EDC.

The Committee considered a request from Rudy LaFreniere, Mine Inspector, and a recommendation from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator to utilize part-time assistance of former Mine Inspector, William Maki. Mr.
LaFreniere would like to use Mr. Maki to identify some of the more remote mine sites that need immediate attention and to assist in familiarizing him with the current procedures that are in place for inspecting mining properties.

Administrator Aloia recommends that the County Board include an additional $1,000 in the part-time line item of the Mine Inspector's budget, from the professional service line item, which would provide approximately 102 hours of part-time help from Mr. Maki at an hourly rate of $9.75 an hour. Mr. LaFreniere could then hire Mr. Maki on an as-needed basis up to that amount.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Braamse and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the appropriate budget amendment for an additional $1,000 in the Mine Inspector's budget for the part-time as-needed hiring of the former Mine Inspector.

The Committee considered a letter from Dennis J. Mack, Vice-President of Support Services, Bell Memorial Hospital, Ishpeming, Michigan regarding the bidding of reference lab services at the Marquette County Medical Care Facility. Bell Memorial would like very much the opportunity to bid on the Medical Care Facility's lab business, which is currently being provided by Marquette General. Mr. Mack is confident that they can provide an equal level of service at a cost savings to the facility, however, he has not been able to verify that assumption because he cannot get bid specifications.

County Administrator Dennis Aloia has spoken with Brad Cory, Medical Care Facility Administrator regarding the matter. Mr. Cory says the program at present time makes money and there is no problem. However, Administrator Aloia suggested that if there was a cost savings in the lab services provided then the facility could even increase its revenues. Administrator Aloia suggests that the Committee wait until a response is available from Mr. Cory.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Trudell and unanimously carried to table the communication for a future Committee meeting.

The Committee considered a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the County of Marquette and Maplewood Development Group, Inc., the purchasers of the Acoks Facility. Civil Counsel David Payant was present and explained that language has been added to protect Marquette County from future environmental claims. Staff has investigated the Acoks site with the assistance of Mr. David Nault, the former Acoks Building and Grounds Superintendent, and has included a list of potential problems with hazardous materials that may exist on the property. (Pages 5 and 6 of the contract) All attempts have been made for a complete list, however, the contract does state that should any additional hazardous materials be discovered on the property which are not listed, the County of Marquette will assume responsibility for them. Mr. Payant basically summarized: injuries caused by future hazards would be the responsibility of the purchaser, injury caused by past hazards would be the County's liability.

In addition, to the environmental list, language has been added for the surveying of the snowmobile trail, and also the County Board has veto power on the contract should the zoning designation not be acceptable. Comm. Arsenuault pointed out that the purchaser's bank had completed a Phase I Environmental Assessment of the Acoks Property and suggested that it be made a part of the purchase agreement.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Purchase Agreement between Maplewood Development Group, Inc. (the purchaser) and the County of Marquette for the Acoks buildings and property with the Phase I Environmental Assessment included, for a purchase price of $172,500.

The Committee considered a recommendation from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, that various County Departments utilize the new Fuel Service Depot in the City of Marquette Public Works Department. Administrator Aloia
has been working with Marquette City Manager Dale Iman, to investigate possible cost savings in sharing fuel. Mr. Aloia has negotiated an arrangement with the City of Marquette, which is the same arrangement that they have with the Marquette School District. Under this plan, the County will pay for its fuel to be delivered to the City Public Works fuel depot and then pay an 8 cents surcharge. The cost will fluctuate according to the cost of the fuel, however, the County will be able to purchase fuel at an approximate savings averaging 15 cents on the gallon. The surcharge will help pay for the operation and maintenance of the facility and also would help establish a replacement and reserve account to build up a fund for eventual replacement of the fuel system.

The County will have access to the facility 24-hours a day, 7 days a week, but will not have any responsibility for maintaining the facility or any liability in using the facility. The new Fuel Supply System will utilize computerized tracking which will allow accurate maintenance of records for County mileage vehicle uses, etc.

The advantages to the City of Marquette will be assistance in paying for the cost of the depot, operation and maintenance, and replacement of the fund. Mr. Aloia believes the situation is good for both the City and the County. The contract that is being proposed allows the County to terminate the agreement with 60 days notice and also it would allow the County to use other fuel companies when necessary.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Potvin and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Fuel Depot Agreement between the City of Marquette and Marquette County for the shared Fuel Supply System.

The Committee considered a letter from Robert S. Menard, Deputy County Drain Commissioner, which indicates that he will step down when Darryl Sundberg, Drain Commissioner resigns. He feels it's in the best interests of the Road Commission. County Administrator Dennis Aloia informed Commissioners that Darryl Sundberg will delay his resignation for at least 60 days.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried to place the communication on file.

The Committee considered a request from Carolyn L. Hanson, Friend of the Court for a temporary full-time employee. Julie Rigling, Unit Secretary II will be on maternity leave shortly. She anticipates being gone no more than 8 weeks. The additional cost would be approximately $3,110, however, Ms. Hanson has been seeking an amendment to the Cooperative Reimbursement Plan to reimburse Marquette County for part of the additional cost. She is very confident that the County will be able to obtain State approval for approximately $1,886 reimbursement through the CRP.

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, recommends that the position be filled on a temporary basis. This clerical position is essential for the Friend of the Court staff.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the temporary full-time employee for the Friend of the Court staff and adopt the appropriate budget amendments.

The Committee considered a request from Comm. Braamse that it direct various County Boards and Commissions which are appointed by the County Board to refrain from scheduling their meetings on Tuesdays. Comm. Braamse serves as the County Board Representative to the Commission on Aging Board, which met today at 2:00 p.m., and is not a serious problem, but also serves as the County Board Liaison to the Board of Health, which meets the last Tuesday of the month.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Potvin and unanimously carried that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board request that the various Boards and Commissions appointed by the County Board attempt to refrain from scheduling meetings that are in conflict with the County Board of Commissioners and Committee meetings and
that a schedule of County Board and Committee meetings be forwarded to the various committees.

Comm. Angeli asked if Marquette County has any vacant lots available for the Habitat for Humanity project. County Administrator Dennis Aloia has directed Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director, to look into the matter and report as soon as possible on what may be available.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. None was forthcoming.

Chairperson Corkin announced that he attended a 2-day conference on the Marquette County Teen Voice at Northern Michigan University. The conference was attended by approximately 100 people representing public and community organizations who are concerned about under-age drinking in Marquette County. The consensus of the meeting was that Marquette County must have a zero degree tolerance for under-age drinking. More information regarding the Marquette County Teen Voice will be forthcoming.

Administrator Aloia reminded Commissioners to pick up their mail in the back room of Commission Chambers.

Administrator Aloia distributed a copy of a report entitled, "Michigan's Courts in the Twenty-First Century". This is a report to the Michigan Legislature, the Governor and the Supreme Court of a study completed in December of 1990 which is recommending sweeping changes in Michigan Courts. Marquette County's Court system has an opportunity to participate in one of five pilot project being conducted in the State of Michigan.

Comm. Potvin informed the Commissioners that he spoke with State Senator Don Koivisto when he was in Lansing for the MAC Conference. Senator Koivisto assures Marquette County that the CFR Legislation will be completed by the end of this legislation session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, February 23, 1993 at 4:30 p.m.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD ON
   TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1993 AND EXECUTIVE/INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
   COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1993.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
7. Delta County 911 Plan review from Pat Gruber, Planner.
9. 1993 Fees-Big Bay Harbor of Refuge.
10. Recommendation from the Executive/Intergovernmental Relations
    Committee to appoint 3 County Commissioners to the EDC.
11. Request from Richard Klahn, Interim Director of EDC, for the
    appointment of 2 County Commissioners to the Screening Committee for
    the hiring of an EDC director.
12. Request from Rudy LaFreniere, Mine Inspector for utilizing the former
    Mine Inspector on a part-time basis.
13. Request from Bell Memorial Hospital for the opportunity to bid on the
    County Medical Care Facility's Reference Lab business.
14. Purchase agreement between Maplewood Development Group, Inc., and
    Marquette County for the Acocok's Property.
15. Shared Fuel Supply System proposal between various Marquette County
    Departments and the Marquette City Public Works Department.
16. Letter from Robert S. Menard, Deputy Drain Commissioner, indicating he
    will step down when Drain Commissioner Sundberg steps down.
17. Fy C Unit E, Secretary
18. Broom, m/c
19. Habitat for Humanity
20. PUBLIC COMMENT.
21. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
22. ADJOURNMENT.