The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, January 18, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


Absent: None

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

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Trudell and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the January 4, 1994 County Board Organizational Meeting be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. James Sodergren, Marquette County Treasurer, read the following statement:

"Have you noticed the big promotion C.C.I. is putting on for the viewing public? I was impressed with the production that I seen on WLUC TV. I don't know what that ad cost but something prompted WLUC TV manager Mr. VanSlater to announce in his 1994 wish list that the County get off of C.C.I.'s back and stop asking to increase C.C.I.'s taxes.

I'm not sure if the County Board has a wish list for 1994 but let me tell you what mine is:

1. Because mining has had and continues to have an environmental impact on communities I wish that 20 cents/ton could be set aside for reclamation/environmental and economic development.

2. Because the present law is not clear and perhaps unconstitutional we have spent over $175,000. on litigation costs regarding the Republic Mine, and the dispute is far from over.

3. Because the assessed valuation in Marquette County goes up every year I wish that the specific taxes would escalate in a like manner.

4. I wish the County would continue to pressure C.C.I. to pay their fair and equitable share of taxes.

For the next couple of months or so I will be speaking to the Board and the viewing public on my wish list. I like this type of setting where there is no editing.

- I want to talk about all the holes and caves in Marquette County and the environmental impact that mining has on a community.
- I want to talk about the Republic Mine and the 1.2 million dollars that is supposed to be paid back by somebody.
- I want to talk about taxes that home owners and business must pay compared to Iron Ore Taxes.
- I want to talk about the iron ore taxes in Minnesota.
- I want to talk about the profits that are made on the Empire Mine and the Tilden Mine.
- I want to talk about the County Budget and the County Medical Care."
Facility.
And finally, I want to talk about our Iron Legacy and the discovery of iron ore 150 years ago. This is the year to establish a trust fund to be used for iron ore related problems and to look to the future and beyond when the iron ore will be all gone.
Thank you and good evening.

* * * *

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

The County Board considered approval of the agenda with several late additions: The appointment of At-large member to the EDC, signs for the Marquette County Fairgrounds, and approval of the make-up of the Statutory Finance Committee. Comm. Potvin requested that the appointment of the At-large member to the EDC be placed first in the Action Items. He has to leave the meeting early and would like to participate in the voting.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following changes/additions: Action Item 10a(1) be the appointment of an At-large member to the EDC and the late addition be 11a) Signs for the Marquette County Fairgrounds, 11b) Approval of the make-up of the Statutory Finance Committee, and 11c) Perkins Park.

Informational Items

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:

b. Memo from James Callahan, Executive Director MAC regarding School Finance Reform.
d. Prosecuting Attorney Opinion #94-01, "Application of the Freedom of Information and Open Meetings Acts to the Marquette County EDC."
e. Recommendation for several County millages adopted by the County Board on September 21, 1993.

Informational Items (cont'd)

10a) The County Board considered a letter from U.S. Senator Carl Levin regarding Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT). Comm. Angeli felt that Senator Levin’s letter was good for as far as it went, however, it does not give us any specific dollar amounts to the payment in lieu of taxes being considered by the Federal Government. Currently, the Federal Government is paying something like 65 cents an acre, whereas, the State of Michigan pays $2.50 an acre.

It was moved by Comm. Angeli, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board accept the letter from U.S. Senator Carl Levin for file, but also request staff to write another letter to Senator Levin repeating Marquette County's concern regarding PILT legislation and suggesting specific dollar amounts on par with the State.

Action Items

10a(1) The County Board considered the appointment of an At-Large member to the Marquette County EDC. Before the voting began, Chairperson Corkin allowed comment by or on behalf of any applicant.

Comm. Potvin contended that a letter circulated by Mr. Jack LaSalle to various labor leaders in the County, inferred that the reasons for not reap-
pointing him to the EDC were petty and singled out Comm. Potvin. Comm. Potvin thought his reasons for not supporting Mr. LaSalle to be far from petty and listed them as follows: a) The EDC Board of Directors at times, has difficulty establishing a quorum to conduct business and attendance records show Mr. LaSalle has missed many meetings. b) The Marquette County EDC needs a new image which requires a change in membership. c) The County Board decided it had to be more involved in the EDC and added three County Commissioners as members of the EDC. d) There is already a labor appointment on the EDC so appointing Mr. LaSalle, who is a labor leader, to the At-Large category is not necessary. e) There was considerable resistance by the EDC to operate as a public body and Mr. LaSalle was an integral part of that resistance. f) Of the three County Commissioners who serve on the EDC Board, two of them did not vote for Mr. LaSalle at the December meeting. g) Mr. LaSalle put pressure on Brian Schlientz to withdraw his application through Mr. Schlientz’s boss, Congressman Stupak.

Comm. Potvin urges Commissioners to support Mr. Ken Tuominen for the At-Large position on the EDC Board, also, when the appointment for the transportation category is considered, he recommends the appointment of Mr. James Scullion.

Comm. Seppanen, who has served as a County Board liaison with the EDC, spoke in favor of the re-appointment of Jack LaSalle. Mr. LaSalle has been a member of the EDC from its very beginning and was the key spark plug for its start-up. The argument against having two labor representatives on the EDC Board is not valid, in that many people have multiple skills. For example, there are several people who have business and/or banking backgrounds on the EDC. Mr. Seppanen contends the Board must look for the best qualified person. Should the three Commissioners who are on the EDC not vote for Mr. LaSalle, that would present no future problem. He urged Commissioners to re-appoint Mr. LaSalle and further suggested that in case of a tie vote, the County Board proceed to a drawing by lot.

County Clerk Dave Roberts, conducted the balloting. Mr. Ken Tuominen, Ely Township, was appointed as an At-Large member of the Marquette County EDC for a six-year term expiring 12/31/99 on the second ballot.

Comm. Potvin was excused and left the meeting.

Action Items (cont’d)

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10a(2), 10b, 10c, 10d, 10e), and 10f) be approved as follows:

10a(2) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve a grant application to the State Court Administrator's Office for Phase II of the 21st Century Commission Project, grant request is for $212,000.

10b) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to pass resolution #94-02, entitled Marquette County Bid Policy and forward a copy to the Michigan Department of Treasury as follows:

RESOLUTION #94-02

MARQUETTE COUNTY BID POLICY

WHEREAS, The County of Marquette, Board of Commissioners, has adopted a County Purchasing Policy #215; and

WHEREAS, that policy has under it a provision entitled Competitive Bidding Procedures, where the County has been directed to bid out all competitive sealed bids for projects that cost $5,000 or more; and

WHEREAS, at such time as the solicitation of bids is authorized by the County Board, these bid procedures will be carried out by the purchasing agent or the Board itself if it so chooses. Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Michigan
Department of Treasury, Office of Revenue and Tax Analysis, as proof of our bid procedure and that a copy of the purchasing policy be enclosed along with this resolution.

GERALD O. CORKIN, CHAIRPERSON
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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10c) A Committee of the Whole recommendation that the County Board request a study of the street lighting and the speed limits along the U.S. 41 business corridor in Marquette Township, along with the traffic light study.

10d) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the 1994 Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement between the Michigan Department of Social Services and the County of Marquette, in the amount of $131,848, resolution as follows:

RESOLUTION
TITLE IV-D COOPERATIVE REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the Prosecuting Attorney has received approval of a Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement with the Michigan Department of Social Services beginning January 1, 1994, and ending December 31, 1994.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Department of Social Services Title IV-D Cooperative Agreement be and hereby is approved in its entirety; and
2. The Chairperson of the County Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Marquette County Board of Commissioners.

GERALD O. CORKIN, CHAIRPERSON
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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10e) A Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the grant agreement between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest Management Division, and the Marquette County Department of Employment Programs for a period of three years, effective the first day of October, 1993 and ending the 30th day of September, 1996, in the amount of $56,000 for the construction of barrier-free toilet buildings, concrete vault covers, and tourist information centers.

10f) A Committee of the Whole recommendation that the County Board allow two County Commissioners to attend the 1994 Annual Legislative Conference in Lansing, Michigan, February 13th through 15th, 1994.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Comm. Bergdahl be designated as one of the Marquette County Representatives to attend the 1994 MACC Legislative Conference.

Comm. Arsenault and Comm. Potvin have both attended MACC Conferences before. Therefore, it was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Braamse, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Administrator draw one of their names by lot to determine which Commissioner attends the MACC Conference.

(After the Board meeting was over, Administrator Aloia drew Comm.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  January 18, 1994

Potvin's name by lot. He is designated to attend the 1994 MACC Legislative Conference along with Comm. Bergdahl).

Late Additions

lla) The County Board considered a request from the Marquette County Fair Board for the erection of directional signs to the fairgrounds. Comm. Bergdahl, who is president of the County Fair Board, explained that they were evaluated by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Their only negative finding was inadequate directions to the fairgrounds. Anyone not familiar with Marquette County may have some difficulty.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board send a letter of support to the Michigan Highway Department for erecting directional signs to the Marquette County Fairgrounds.

llb) A memo from Civil Counsel, David Payant pointed out that the County Board must officially approve the members of the Statutory Finance Committee that were appointed by Chairperson Corkin.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board approve Chairperson Corkin's appointment to the Statutory Finance Committee of Commissioners Angeli, Arsenaught, Joseph, Minelli, and Seppanen.

llc) Comm. Angeli requested that Administrative Staff and the County Board consider the possibility of turning Perkins Park over to the State of Michigan.

County Administrator Dennis Aloia reported that it now costs approximately $3,000 a year for the County to operate Perkins Park. The Big Bay Harbor of Refuge pays its own way, excluding the recent tank removal project. Administrator Aloia added that at next week's Committee of the Whole meeting, he is recommending Commissioners establish a budget committee. The operation of Perkins Park could be one of many items that the Committee could review.

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

Commissioner and Staff Comments

Chairperson Corkin announced that there is a special public meeting to be held Wednesday, January 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Gwinn High School Cafeteria. The meeting was proposed by Jeanette Maki, Gwinn Area Business Association to discuss the proposal to place a Job Corps Training Center at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base. The public meeting will be moderated by the Base Conversion Authority Director, Ray Amtmann. Also Congressman Bart Stupak will be present.

County Administrator Dennis Aloia met with Brad Cory, Director of the Medical Care Facility, and as of last Thursday afternoon, they still have not reached an agreement on funding. He recommended that the County Board meet with the Social Services Board, but Mr. Cory would like to meet once more with Administrator Aloia before the Boards meet. The date of January 26th was suggested, however, the agenda of the Medical Care Facility Board is full and so Mr. Cory requests that a special meeting be held at another time. Board consensus was to try for a special meeting on Monday, January 31st.

Chairperson Corkin reported that the Ad Hoc Aviation Committee has completed its work plan, which was adopted by the Base Conversion Authority as part of its reuse plan. He thanked Administrator Aloia, Comm. Minelli, Planner Jim Rippola, and Airport Manager Hal Pawley, for their efforts.
Comm. Bergdahl reported that a semi-trailer accident in Harvey created a fuel spill, which just happened to be on the same day as the Planning Commission meeting. Because it was an emergency, they authorized the fuel contaminated soil, which was in barrels, to be brought to the Menominee County Landfill. The Planning Commission wanted to bring it to the Marquette County Landfill, but the Solid Waste Authority said no.

Comm. Seppanen contended that if Pellistar doesn’t come up with a solution to remediate fuel contaminated soils soon, the Marquette County Solid Waste Authority must deal with contaminated soils locally because Marquette County cannot continue to haul fuel contaminated soils out of County.

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, January 18, 1994 at 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 ORGANIZA-
TIONAL MEETING HELD ON January 4, 1994.
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8. PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   b. Memo from James Callahan, Executive Director MAC regarding School Finance Reform.
   c. Copy of the December 28, 1993 journal of the State Senate when they voted on House Bill 5097, Specific Ore Tax Legislation.
   d. Prosecuting Attorney Opinion #94-01, "Application of the Freedom of Information and Open Meetings Acts to the Marquette County EDC."
   e. Recommendation for several County millages adopted by the County Board on September 21, 1993.
10. ACTION ITEMS:
   a. Committee of the Whole recommendation to allow grant application for Phase II of the 21st Century Commission Project to the State Court Administrator.
   b. Committee of the Whole recommendation to adopt the Marquette County Bid Policy Resolution and forward a copy to the Michigan Department of Treasury.
   c. Committee of the Whole recommendation to request a study of the street lighting and speed limit on the U.S. 41 Business Corridor in Marquette Township.
   d. Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the 1994 Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement with the Michigan Department of Social Services.
   e. Committee of the Whole recommendation to approve the grant agreement between the Michigan DNR and Marquette County Employment Programs.
   f. Committee of the Whole recommendation to allow two County Commissioners to attend the 1994 MAC Annual Legislative Conference.

11. LATE ADDITIONS:
    a. (Note: Text not legible)

12. PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)
13. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
14. ADJOURNMENT.