The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, February 8, 1994 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 25, 1994 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved as presented.

It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period January 21, through February 2, 1994 in the amount of $1,348,097.54 be approved.

The Committee considered a memo from Mike Zorza, Emergency Program Manager, regarding a grant recently received by the Upper Peninsula Emergency Medical Services Corporation (U.P.E.M.S.) from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to assist in emergency, medical and rescue services in our region by obtaining much needed equipment. Mr. Zorza was present and explained the total projected cost for the equipment is $5,460 with 75% being reimbursed by the U.P.E.M.S. Corporation and the remaining 25% local match would be $1,365.

County Administrator Dennis Aloia explained that the grant application was approved by the County Board on August 17, 1993, and Administrator Aloia recommended at that time that the County Board consider funding the project during the 1994 budget process. It was never addressed, we apparently overlooked it, and therefore the project was not funded. Should the County Board want to fund this project, he recommends the local match be taken from contingency.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board appropriate $1,365 from contingency for the County's 25% local match for the $5,460 grant being reimbursed by the U.P.E.M.S. Corporation for the purchase of emergency equipment.

The Committee considered a $4,000 grant in Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Funds to assist in upgrading existing amateur radio emergency communication system. Mike Zorza, Emergency Program Manager, was present and explained that the FEMA grant to upgrade our emergency communication services and support equipment requires a 50% local match, however, the Volunteer Amateur Radio Operators in Marquette County are soliciting funding and have pledged to pay $2,000 of the $4,000 local match. According to the County Board minutes of September 21, 1993, the County's $2,000 match was approved, but the budget amendment and funding were not provided.

Commissioners expressed concern that the Volunteer Amateur Radio Operators would reach their $2,000 pledge. Administrator Aloia added that the County will not pay its $2,000 match until the $2,000 pledge has been provided.

It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board appropriate $2,000 from contingency for its share of the local match to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant funds to assist in upgrading our existing Amateur Radio Emergency Communication System.
The Committee considered a recommendation from Cyndi Beaudry, Risk Management Specialist regarding Liability/Property insurance premium renewals. Ms. Beaudry was present and explained that she met with Administrator Aloia and the Ad Hoc Insurance Committee consisting of Comm. Potvin and Comm. Minelli. The first recommendation from the Committee is to discontinue participation in the Stop Loss Program (SLP). The current entry point into the SLP is $194,000. The County’s current Self-Insured Retention (SIR) concerning liability is $75,000. This means that for any one claim occurring during the year, the County’s loss fund can only be charged up to the current SIR of $75,000. MMRMA and Re-insurance programs would pay the additional amounts beyond the current SIR-level. The County would only be responsible to pay this per occurrence SIR until it hits the SLP entry point of $194,000, however, the history of the County shows that there has truly only been one year which the County came close to reaching the SLP entry point. The recommendation not to participate in the Stop Loss Program would save $8,855, however, the County assumes some risk of piercing the entry point of $194,000 and would then be responsible for losses beyond that level.

The second recommendation is that the County purchase auto physical damage coverage for its current fleet of 32 vehicles for 1994. Ms. Beaudry was advised that the premium for auto physical damage would only be $5,507, which works out to approximately $172 per vehicle. Although the County only paid $1,763.46 for physical damage claims in 1993, one accident could result in damages beyond the cost of the premium.

County Administrator Dennis Aloia concurs with both recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Insurance Committee. It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Potvin, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board concur with the recommendation from Cyndi Beaudry, Risk Management Specialist and remove the Stop Loss Program coverage from the policy at a savings of $8,855, and also purchase auto physical damage coverage for the County’s fleet of 32 vehicles at a cost of $5,507 for 1994.

The Committee considered an evaluation of Sundberg, Carlson, and Associates, Inc. from Larry Bussone, County Remonumentation Representative. Mr. Bussone was present and explained that he was well satisfied with the performance of Sundberg, Carlson, and Associates in meeting their contract of $72,496 to remonument 101 corners by December 31, 1993. There was a clause for extras, as needed, that was agreed upon for $6,276. The extra work that was billed included the cost of surveying additional corners, line work, GLO notes, and recording fees. All extras were requested and reviewed by the County and computed under the fee schedule negotiated in the contract.

Mr. Bussone further pointed out that the remonumentation of the K.I. Sawyer property is a priority. Work has already been done on the T48N-R25W line. There may also be a private contract to survey K.I. Sawyer through the Base Conversion process, and the County Remonumentation Committee has already requested that the Base be tied in with County Remonumentation.

Mr. Bussone recommended that the County Board commence negotiation for the 1994 fees and work program with Sundberg and Carlson. Although they have a three year contract, Sundberg and Carlson is subject to annual review. Also, the extra work performed by Sundberg and Carlson was worth it and will lower surveying costs in 1994.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board commence renegotiations of the 1994 fees and work program with Sundberg, Carlson, and Associates for remonumentation in 1994.

The Committee considered a memo from Joseph Erickson, Vice-Chairperson, Marquette County Planning Commission regarding the out-of-County disposal of fuel contaminated soils. The Planning Commission received the request for out-of-County disposal from Ameritech/Michigan Bell Telephone on January 12, 1994.

Mr. Erickson was present and explained that the Planning Commission adopted a resolution effective January 1, 1994 rescinding the limited
emergency for out-of-County disposal of Type II and Type III fuel contaminated soils. At its annual meeting on January 12, 1994 the Planning Commission unanimously requested that the County Board provide direction to the Planning Commission to resolve future disposal requests. It was noted that the DNR issued a permit to the Solid Waste Authority for the disposal of fuel contaminated soils, however, the DNR also required a $250,000 storage building be constructed. Pellister now is on the verge of getting a permit from the DNR for the treatment of fuel contaminated soils, however, the DNR is requiring that they add an air scrubber which costs $500,000. The County Board has received no response from Pellister in recent weeks as to the status of their project.

Chairperson Corkin suggested that he and Comm. Sepponen meet with the DNR and the Solid Waste Authority to discuss the issue. Apparently, under present DNR rules, the storage piles of fuel contaminated soil around Marquette County cannot be moved to another site just for storage. They must be treated on-site or moved to a treatment facility.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Angeli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board form a sub-committee that would meet with the Solid Waste Authority and the Michigan DNR to reach an agreement for the storage and/or disposal of fuel contaminated soils within Marquette County.

The Committee considered a memo from James Kippola, Senior Planner, regarding the Michigan Department Commerce, Low/Moderate Income Guidelines, (LMI). Mr. Kippola was present and explained that data has just been released based on the 1990 Census which shows that Marquette County has an LMI figure of 38%. This is 13 points lower than the 51% required to be eligible for various CDBG Grant/Loan Programs such as Rebuild Michigan, Economic Development, and Infrastructure and Housing and Community Development grants. Many communities have challenged the accuracy of the Department of Commerce figures and initiated procedures to upgrade their LMI standings. Some have been successful. CUPPAD suggests 10% to 20% is the average that communities have increased their LMI's by using Department of Commerce approved methods.

To challenge the Department of Commerce, LMI figures requires that Marquette County conduct a door-to-door, telephone, or mail survey which obtains a minimum of 400 responses to two questions: 1) How many people live in your home? and 2) What is the total income of your household? Should the County Board desire to upgrade their eligibility status, Mr. Kippola recommends that the resources be appropriated to hire part-time help to conduct a telephone survey. According to Department of Commerce guidelines, telephone and door-to-door surveys have the expected response of 75% to 90%. Using County experience with other surveys, it would take approximately 215 hours of someone's time to design and conduct the survey. The budget for the phone survey includes: 215 work hours at $5 per hour, $200 in supplies, and $150 long distance calls at approximately $300, for a total budget of $1,575. A mail out/mail back survey by contrast, would cost approximately $4,700.

County Administrator Dennis Aloia, further explained that the 38% LMI figure would eliminate Marquette County for the next decade for many grant opportunities. Although there is an element of risk because we may not get our figure to the 51% level, the $1,600 spent is worth it. Each unit of government is entitled to do their own survey, however, should the survey conducted by the City of Ishpeming increase their rating, it does not affect the County's rating. Each unit's survey is independent.

Commissioners expressed concern that our survey would not be acceptable to the Department of Commerce and also suggested that we should make an effort to reduce the 51% to a lower figure. An effort to lower the LMI requirement may be something the County Board could do separately, however, staff recommends that we still conduct the telephone survey and attempting to raise our LMI percentage. Our survey will be acceptable to the Department of Commerce because they are helping the County to develop the survey guidelines and questions.

It was moved by Comm. Sepponen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend
the County Board appropriate up to $1,600 from contingency for a telephone survey as recommended by staff to upgrade Marquette County's Low/Moderate Income Guidelines.

The Committee considered a memo from Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director, recommending changes to the Building Permit Fee Schedules. An increase in permit fees is recommended as follows: 1) Raise plumbing, electrical, and mechanical base permit fees by $5. 2) Change policy and figuring permit fees for single-family residences to include basements and garages in the square footage calculation. 3) Increase the cost of residential garage and accessory building permit fees to $.01 for each square-foot after the first 500. 4) Leave all other construction portion of the schedule as is. 5) Increase the cost of a single-wide mobile home permit to $60 from $35.

J. Gordon Uren, Building Official, was present to answer questions regarding the building permit fee increases. It is difficult to determine precisely what the fee increase would mean to an individual home owner. It depends on whether a garage is attached or separate, or whether the home has a full basement or crawl space, however, the fees will generate approximately $12,000 more in revenue for the Building Codes Department. This adds about 4% to the current level of $300,000 in revenue. The Building Codes Department believes this to be a modest increase which is better than waiting for several years and making a large increase.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Braashe, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Building Permit Fee Increases as presented by staff with an effective date of March 1, 1994.

The Committee considered the memo from Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director, requesting formal resolutions agreeing to the extension of the Land Acquisition Grants for the Shooting Sports Complex and the Honor Camp Access. Amendments to the two grant agreements that have been offered by the State of Michigan extend the completion of acquisitions through December 31, 1994.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the formal resolutions extending the acquisition for the Shooting Complex and Honor Camp Access Road grants as recommended by staff.

Ron Koshorek, Resource Management Director, provided an update on the Big Bay Harbor Fuel Tank Project. U.P. Engineering is proceeding with the work which will lead to the ground water clean up with detailed hydrogeologic investigating which is required by the Leaking Underground Storage Tank (UST) Act. The work involves installing several wells and laboratory testing. The report is expected on April 29th. The current agreement with U.P. Engineers is a time and materials agreement which can be terminated at any time. Estimated costs for the ground-water work, analysis, and developing a remediation plan is between $17,500 and $35,000; of which 90% is recoverable from the MUSTFA Fund.

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

The Committee considered the Friend of the Court IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract for 1994. Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, pointed out that the $338,496 contract corresponds with budget amounts approved during the budget process and recommends its approval.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanan, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the 1994 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract for the Marquette County Friend of the Court for 1994 for $338,496.

The Committee considered a request from the Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development Council for 1994 dues totaling $200. The RC&D
Council projects include: Natural resources improvement, Community improvement, Recreation and tourism, Information and education, water quality and quantity, forestry, and economic development. Commission consensus was to continue to support this worthwhile organization.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Trudell, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board appropriate $200 from contingency for the 1994 UPRG&L dues.

It was moved by Comm. Potvin, seconded by Comm. Trudell, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:
17) The Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Air Quality Division, pending permit application list.
18) A memo from the National Association of Counties encouraging that individual counties promote radon awareness and encourage testing. Marquette County has been identified by the Environmental Protection Agency as having portions of it that are potential radon risk zones.
19) A memo from Phil Bareham, legislative coordinator with Michigan Association of Counties regarding the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) planning process.

The County Board considered a memo from David Payant, Civil Counsel regarding the Freedom of Information Act and the Marquette County EDC. There are some records maintained by the EDC that are confidential, such as personal credit records. But generally, the names, addresses, and the loan amounts are information that must be available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act because the EDC is a public body.

A suggestion was made that the Commissioners who are members of the EDC Board of Directors be sure that the EDC is informing applicants that EDC loan information is subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

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

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

Commissioner Comment

Dennis Aloia, County Administrator, reported that Gerard Markey, Equalization Director and Brent Nault, Data Processing Manager, attended a meeting in Escanaba. As a result of SB-1, there will be a number of changes in tax administration in order to meet state requirements that will create extra expense and time for counties.

Comm. Bergdahl presented a letter from Skandia Township expressing concern about the proposed Shooting Sports Complex. Skandia Township's basic question is: If Marquette County cannot afford to maintain a zoning process, how can they possibly afford to operate a Shooting Sports Complex? Ron Roachere, Resource Management Director, further explained that members of his staff and members of CUPPAD met with the townships four months ago explaining what they had to do to implement their own zoning ordinance. Several townships started early and already have their zoning ordinances underway. Skandia Township is not one of them. Comm. Corkin requested that Comm. Bergdahl provide a copy of the letter to the Commissioners' mail meeting file for review and response.

Comm. Corkin reported that himself, Comm. Minelli, Administrator Aloia, and Hal Pawley met with representatives of the FAA regarding air traffic control services when K.I. Sawyer closes. The FAA seems very positive about providing such services.
Comm. Braamse reported she attended a Democratic party meeting on Sunday at which Civil Counsel Payant spoke on the Specific Ore Tax. He requested that the Democratic party support the County's position, however, the matter was tabled so that CCI could be invited to come to a meeting and provide their position. If CCI wants to send a representative, the Democratic party will hold a special meeting in late February.

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 8, 1994 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

3. PUBLIC COMMENT.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

5. Review of Claims and Accounts.

6. U.P. EMS Corporation Grant for upgrading emergency equipment.

7. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Grant to upgrade
emergency communication system.

8. Memo from Cyndi Beaudry, Risk Management Specialist regarding
liability/property insurance renewal.

Larry Bussone, County Remonumentation Representative.

10. Request for out-of-County disposal of fuel contaminated soil.

11. Michigan Department of Commerce low/moderate income guide-
lines.

12. Recommended changes to the building permit fee schedule.

13. Grant amendments: Shooting sports land and Honor Camp access.


15. 1994 Title IV-D Cooperative Reimbursement Contract for the
Friend of the Court.

dues notice and 1993 Annual Report.

17. Michigan DNR Air Quality Division pending permit application
list for Marquette County.

18. Memo from NACo regarding RADON maps and RADON testing.

19. Memo from MAC regarding the Intermodal Service Transportation
Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991.

20. Memo from Civil Counsel David Payant regarding Freedom of
Information Act and the Marquette County EDC.

21.

22.

23. PUBLIC COMMENT.

24. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

25. ADJOURNMENT.