The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, September 12, 1995 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. Trudell, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on August 29, 1995 be approved.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment. Henry DeGroot, Wells Township Supervisor, was present and commended County Commissioners for trying to balance the budget and biting the bullet on budget cuts. He is confident that the Board will be fair. Mr. DeGroot suggested that one area of possible cuts would be the distribution of copies of the Emergency Response Plan. He had his copy with him which was approximately four inches thick. Mr. DeGroot contended that the Emergency Response Plan is so voluminous that he would never have time to read it and it would just take up space on his shelf.

Ted Haara, Youth Home Administrator, was present along with a number of the Youth Home Staff to show their support and let the County Board know how important continuing the Youth Home is. The Youth Home has been a force in Marquette County for 20 years licensed as a secured detention home under rules by the State of Michigan.

Mr. Haara explained that as of 1992 there are 150 specific rules that the Youth Home must follow. The biggest fear is suicide or an assault on Staff, however, there are no locks at the Youth Home. The home is instead staff secured. The policy is to deal with youth out of concern, experience, compassion and sometimes even suspiciousness. The Marquette County Youth Home has always had an exemplary inspection report from the State Bureau of License and Regulations.

Deanna Dunn, Night Shift Supervisor, at the Youth Home explained that there are only two staff members on the night shift. Any problems that arise must be dealt with by them. Recently there were plans by some youth to assault staff and steal their cars and run away, however, staff learned of their plans ahead of time and were able to control the situation.

Ms. Dunn also explained that the Youth Home staff also deals with juveniles off premises, and must respond to several hundred phone calls per year.

Renee Rosenberger, Licensed Foster Parent, was present to support the Youth Home. The impact of closing the Youth Home would be a tragedy for foster care homes. When crises occur in foster care homes, often at night, having no Youth Home means there would be no place to put a disruptive youth.

A former Youth Home resident (she did not provide her name) spoke in support of keeping the Youth Home open. When a resident of the Youth Home she found counseling and support available day or night. Foster Care Homes are very limited. The Youth Home provides an atmosphere that is not jail, but rather a comfortable place to live, providing a number of educational and recreational activities.

Dave Wilson, Counselor at the Youth Home, spoke in support of maintaining a full staff at the Youth Home. A reduction in staff may be dangerous because some of the boys staying at the Youth Home are very, very big. A staff person never attempts to restrain a youth by their self. If there is a reduction in staff there may be a major incident at the Youth Home.

There being no further public comment, Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.
It was moved by Comm. Braasme, seconded by Comm. Seppanen and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved as presented.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Minelli and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period August 26, 1995, through September 7, 1995 in the amount of $1,047,170.72 be approved.

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The Committee considered a draft copy of the Local Emergency Management Work Agreement being proposed for FY 1996. Michael Zorza, Emergency Program Manager, was present and explained that the Agreement is an Administrative tool designed to provide a summary of projects and activity that Marquette County intends to carry out during FY 1996 to enhance emergency services and community safety throughout the County. It is a guide for our community and is distributed to all local units of governments, hospitals, and emergency agencies.

Mr. Zorza further explained that he realizes it is a cumbersome document, however, the Agreement must comply with all federal and state standards. The Local Emergency Management Work Agreement is not just a plan but also sets policy. The value is not just in having the document in place but the process that we must go through to develop the Agreement. By having a plan in place which meets state and federal standards, we are able to receive assistance by following the proper policy and providing certification of emergency conditions. For example, Marquette County municipalities received approximately $4 million in disaster assistance last year because of the severe winter freeze-ups because we had this plan in place.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Local Emergency Management Work Agreement being proposed for FY 1996.

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The Committee considered the updated Marquette County Emergency Management Resolution. Michael Zorza, Emergency Program Manager, was present and explained that the current Marquette County Emergency Management Resolution was recently reviewed by the Emergency Services Division Staff and the Local Emergency Planning Committee. They felt that the existing policy has served our community well during emergency situations and only minor changes are recommended to reflect organizational changes and clarify emergency responsibilities. The resolution is necessary in order for the County to have the proper procedures in place during emergency and disaster situations to establish a means of liaison and coordination between the County and its political subdivisions, as required by State and Federal policy.

It was moved by Comm. Trudell, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the Marquette County Emergency Management Resolution.

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The Committee considered a proposed fee schedule for Private Duty Services within the Home Health Division recommended by the Marquette County Board of Health. Dr. Randall M. Johnson, Health Department Director, was present and explained that over the past several months the Health Department has been developing a new private duty service within the Home Health Division. Services under the program would help the elderly or a disabled person to remain in their homes for as long as possible. The service would place a trained home care aide and/or nurse in the person’s home to provide four levels of care: 1) Homemaker/Companion Aide, 2) Basic Personal Care Aide, 3) Private Duty Home Health Aide, and 4) Nursing Care.

Dr. Johnson further explained that prior to providing any private duty services, a client assessment would be performed by a Registered Nurse who would continue to monitor each case to insure that the highest quality care is being given.
It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the Fee Schedule for Private Duty Services within the Home Health Division of the Marquette County Health Department.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from George Wright, Facilities Manager, to award the Service Center Lawn Project bid. The Service Center Lawn Replacement Project involves the removal of six inches of sand and poor soil at the site, filling in with six inches of top soil, fertilization and installation of Class A sod.

Mr. Wright explained that the County advertised for sealed bids, conducted a mandatory prebid walk through with four contractors and received three bids. The approved CIP budget for this project is $19,000. The low bid proposal is from Nagelkirk Landscape Services, to do the work for $16,831.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Braamse, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the award of the Service Center Lawn Project Bid to Nagelkirk Landscape Service, Marquette Township, for the amount of $16,831.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from George Wright, Facilities Manager, to award the Jail Visitation Room Project Bid. The Jail Visitation Room Remodeling Project involves changing the location of the entry doors for both the inmates and the visiting public. The budgeted amount for this project is $16,000. The project was advertised, a project walk through was conducted and three sealed bids were received. All bids were over the budgeted amount but the staff recommendation is to reprogram a total of $1,658 from two other jail projects that were completed under budget, and award the project to the low bidder, J. Clark Construction, Inc., of Marquette, for $17,658.

County Administrator, Dennis Aloia, further explained that the jail segregation project and the jail sprinkler project came in under budget and approximately $2,000 remains. He would like to transfer the whole $2,000 to the jail visitation room project which would leave a buffer of $300 to $400 in case of minor project overruns.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Minelli, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board award the Jail Visitation Room Project to the low bidder, J. Clark Construction, Inc., Marquette, Michigan for $17,658.

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The Committee considered a memo from David Payant, Civil Counsel, regarding a resolution by Wexford County encouraging registration numbers be visibly displayed on snowmobiles. Mr. Payant explained that he has been involved in a number of cases where people operating snowmobiles have fled from police officers and usually it is impossible to identify the snowmobile. He concurs with the Wexford County Resolution and recommends the County Board do the same because displaying snowmobile registrations numbers in a visible place will assist in enforcing laws to their use.

Comm. Bergdahl contended that the law already requires that the registration numbers be printed on a snowmobile, however, usually the letters are too small. The law should require that the letters be made very large and placed on the cowling of the snowmobile.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Angel and unanimously carried to table the resolution until staff can check what the present law requires for snowmobile registration numbers.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from Dennis Aloia, County Administrator to extend the D.M. Griffith Cost Allocation Plan Contract for one year. Administrator Aloia was present and explained that the extension would be at the same rate as D.M. Griffith has charged for the past three years. They do an annual cost allocation study which has been very beneficial to Marquette County. We recover approximately $140,000 every year through this program. D.M. Griffith, for their services, keeps one-half of the funds recovered up to a cap of $14,000 and the County receives all remaining funds.

Mr. Aloia further explained that he will be bidding out the County’s audit and does not want to also bid out the cost allocation plan and have possibly two new firms providing audit type services next year will bid out the cost allocation plan at the end of next year.

Administrator Aloia, as per the wishes of the County Board, will place a specific date for the end of the contract for FY 1994 into the agreement.

It was moved by Comm. Minelli, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the amendment to the agreement to provide professional consulting services to Marquette County by D.M. Griffith and Associates for the County’s Annual Cost Allocation Plan based on the County’s financial data for 1994.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from Gary Yoder, Finance Manager, to approve the FY 1994 Deficit Fund Plan. Mr. Yoder was present and explained that pursuant to P.A. 275 of 1980 a Deficit Fund Plan must be filed with the State of Michigan detailing any corrective actions to be taken to eliminate any prior deficit fund balances. The Plan must be approved by the County Board.

The recently completed audit for 1994 has determined that the County has a deficit fund balance in two of its funds as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSS Child Care Fund</td>
<td>$7,971.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probate Child Care Special Revenue Fund</td>
<td>$62,389.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These deficits will be resolved by transferring equity from the General Fund which will be available from several funds which returned positive fund balances at the end of the year to the General Fund.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the Deficit Fund Plan for FY 1994.

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It was moved by Comm. Braamse, seconded by Comm. Joseph and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee accept and place on file a copy of a letter from James Storey, KISBCA, to Don Hare, State Director, Rural Economic and Community Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding the Base Conversion Authority’s application for $2.5 million Intermediary Lending Program. They are happy to get the buildings to meet the needs of businesses expanding to the K.I. Sawyer location.

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Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Judy Bullock, Teacher at the Youth Home, was present and explained that she instructed 58 students last year at the Youth Home who were unable to attend regular schools because they have been suspended. If these youth don’t have this educational program they would be at a tremendous disadvantage when they are finally allowed to go back to their regular school. They must keep up their peers in their studies.

There being no further public comment. Chairperson Corkin closed this portion of the meeting.
It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen and unanimously carried on a roll call vote 10 Ayes (Comm. Arsenault, Angeli, Bergdahl, Braamse, Joseph, Minelli, Rapport, Seppanen, Trudell and Corkin) to 0 Nays that the Committee of the Whole go into closed session to discuss labor negotiations.

Chairperson Corkin declared a brief recess to clear commission chambers.

CLOSED SESSION

The Committee of the Whole came back into open session.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
9. Recommendation to Award Service Center Lawn Project Bid.
10. Recommendation to Award Jail Visitation Room Project Bid.
11. Resolution Urging Registration Numbers Be Visibly Displayed on Snowmobiles.
12. Amendment to Extend Agreement to Provide Professional Consulting Services to Marquette County by D.M. Griffith and Associates.
14. Letter from James Storey, KISBCA, to Don Hare, State Director, Rural Economic and Community Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding the Base Conversion Authority’s Application for $2.5 Million Participation in the Intermediary Relending Program.

15.

16.

17. PUBLIC COMMENT.
18. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
19. CLOSED SESSION to Discuss Labor Negotiations.
20. ADJOURNMENT.

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NOTICE: The County Board of Commissioners will meet as a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of a Budget Work Session immediately following the September 12, 1995 Committee of the Whole meeting (approximately 5:30 P.M.)