The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, September 22, 1998 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skews Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Departmental Budget Hearing held on August 26, 1998 and the Committee of the Whole meeting held on September 8, 1998 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Seppanen and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following additions: Item 5a) Chuck Pierson, A-1, Ishpeming, regarding a Temporary Occupancy Permit, Item 13) Seven Action Items from the KI Sawyer Economic Development Committee Meeting, Item 14) Letter to the Editor Commending Our Federal Legislators for Their Leadership in the Redevelopment of KI Sawyer, Item 15) Application to Michigan DNR for Quick Grant for Cost Share Boat Purchase, Item 16) Draft Grant Agreement with FFA/EDA for Construction and Furnishing the Sawyer Passenger Terminal, Item 17) Draft Grant Agreement with FFA/MAP for Construction of Sawyer Terminal Phase III, and Runway and Lighting Projects, Item 18) Temporary Appointment to the Marquette County Airport Board, and Item 19) Marquette County Sesquicentennial Committee Update.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Roberts and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period September 4, 1998, through September 17, 1998 in the amount of $1,633,088.57 be approved.

Chuck Pierson, A-1, Ishpeming, was present and explained he needs a Temporary Occupancy Permit to stay in business. He distributed informational packets to the Commissioners contending he has been unjustly denied occupancy of his business and also has paid a $200 appeal fee, however, it will take eight months before the State Board will hear his appeal. Meanwhile he is threatened with eviction by Ishpeming City Attorney David Savu and Building Code Official Gordon Uren. He has invested many dollars in the building and he needs a Temporary Occupancy Certificate to stay in business while his appeal is being processed.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted that the County Building Codes Board of Appeals is meeting on October 14th.

Civil Counsel Harley Andrews also believed that Mr. Pierson could not be evicted until after his appeal had been heard. Staff will check on the matter and get back to the Board with more information.

The Committee considered an AIP Grant for the Passenger Terminal at Sawyer. Steve Powers, County Administrator, reported that Marquette County has received the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Grant from the FAA for construction of the passenger terminal in the amount of $500,000. The grant is being funded with the FY 1998 Entitlement Funds. The remainder of the funding for the passenger terminal will come from grants from the Military Airports Program (MAP), EDA, the Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics (BOA); and local Passenger Facility Charges (PFC).

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve acceptance of the Grant and designate the Chairperson to execute the grant agreement. * * * * *

The Committee considered the bid award for the roof flashing repair project for Sawyer Building No. 403. Six proposals were received and Pellow Roofing of Marquette is the low and responsive bidder. The project has a cost of $3,750 and constitutes replacing of the roof flashing on two sides of the building which is Air Force approved and funded.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the bid award to Pellow Roofing for the Sawyer Building No. 403 - Roof Flashing Repair Project in the amount of $3,750. * * * * *
The Committee considered a bid award for Sawyer Building No. 730 - Roof Repair. Six proposals were received of which Pellow Roofing was the low and responsive bidder. The project has a cost of $8,497 and is Air Force approved and funded.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the bid award to Pellow Roofing for Sawyer Building No. 730 - Roof Repair Project in the amount of $8,497.

The Committee considered the FY 1999 Caretaker Budget. Tom Rumora, Director KISDD, was present and explained that negotiations on the FY 1999 Caretaker Budget were held at KI Sawyer on September 9, 1998. The general direction of federal Caretaker dollars is decreasing, however, Mr. Rumora was encouraged by and comfortable with his discussions with Mr. John Carr, AFBCA/DB. Mr. Carr is looking ahead to the next five to six years with providing declining caretaker budgets. This FY 1999 budget is not the end but a piece for ongoing needs.

The Air Force will be providing a $1.5 million Caretaker Budget for FY 1999 compared to a $2 budget for 1998. Ed Bailey, Operations Manager KISDD, believes the 1999 Caretaker Budget to be reasonable but there will be reductions in security and fire fighting forces. Fire protection funds have been cut in half from $600,000 in 1998 to $300,000 in 1999. Security patrol hours are also being reduced with 1999 funding set at $105,000. Any "off line - off budget" damages will be dealt with building by building by the Air Force so as to not artificially pad the Caretaker Budget.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the FY 1999 Caretaker Budget in the amount of $1,531,500.

The Committee considered Amended Lease Terms for the Naval Reserve Center for Sawyer Building 504. Since the time of approval the Air Force has determined that they will terminate their lease with Marquette County for the property which Building 504 sits on instead of entering into a Prime Lease. This means Marquette County will own Building 504, the land it sits on, and any all personal property in Building 504.

The Naval Reserve would like a longer term lease than the one approved last June which will allow them to plan and insure that their investment made in Building No. 504 is a prudent one. They are requesting a long term lease with terms for years 1 through 4 to remain as previously approved, with terms for years 5 through 15 be $3.50 per square foot plus a 3% per year escalator.

It was moved by Comm. Seppansen, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the Amended Lease Terms for Sawyer Building No. 504 with the Naval Reserve.

The Committee considered approval of terms for the lease/purchase payments by KI Sawyer Processing, LLC (the Bahman Project). Lease terms are as follows: $6,500 security deposit. Year one - $1,500 per month, year two - $3,000 per month, year three - $5,000 per month, year four - $5,090.90 per month, with total payments of $175,000 credited towards purchase if the provisions of the lease have been fulfilled. The lease allows Marquette County to oversee the project and hold KI Processing, LLC to the terms and provisions agreed upon and also allows KI Processing to purchase the property after the company has had time to become fully established.

It was moved by Comm. Seppansen, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the terms for KI Processing, LLC lease for the former central heat plant and that the lease termination from the Air Force be accepted.

The Committee considered an Amended Loan Agreement associated with the Intermediary Relending Program. At a recently held training session for Rural Business Service staff members, instructions were given to inform intermediaries whose loans closed prior to February 6, 1998 that it will be necessary to execute an amended loan agreement in order to take advantage of new regulations. The amendment will broaden the number of projects eligible for loans and will include lodging and recreation.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  SEPTEMBER 22, 1998

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 Amended Loan Agreement which includes the new regulation, RD Instruction 4274-D.

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The Committee considered an early access policy recommended by the KISED C to provide for limited activity in the building by a prospective tenant prior to a lease and sublease being finalized. The policy will allow the KISDD Director to grant early access for cleanup, minor modifications, or general improvements in preparation of full occupancy to a Sawyer building for companies who signed an agreement and provide proof of adequate insurance coverage. In cases of unusual or unacceptable delay, or consequences which create compelling justification, approval is obtained at two levels: One from the federal government, and two from the County Board or one of the following: KISED C or County Administrator.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the early access policy to provide for limited activity in a Sawyer building by a prospective tenant prior to a lease and sublease being finalized.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from the KISED C to obtain new directional signs for the former base at appropriate locations throughout the County. Funding will be provided through a combination of federal, state, or and/or local resources, cost not to exceed $5,000 without further approval by KISED C, County Board, and/or County Administrator.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board authorize the KISDD Staff to obtain and install new directional signs throughout Marquette County for KI Sawyer with a $5,000 spending limit.

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The Committee of the Whole met on Tuesday, September 22, 1998, they considered a resolution to adopt the OEA Funded Business Plan.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, the County Board adopt the OEA - Funded Business Plan and related studies developed by JBF Associates as guidelines for the continued redevelopment of the former KI Sawyer Air Force Base Area, and direct KISDD Staff to implement and update the recommendations therein.

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The Committee considered a draft letter to the Editor of the Mining Journal regarding the conversion efforts at KI Sawyer and commending in particular U.S. Senator Carl Levin and Congressman Bart Stupak who have spent countless hours advocating, facilitating, and problem solving, on behalf of Marquette County and KI Sawyer.

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 direct that the Chairperson sign the letter to the Mining Journal Editor as presented.

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The Committee considered a Sheriff’s Department request for an application to the Department of Natural Resources for a cost share boat purchase. Undersheriff Jim Bjorne was present and explained that grants applied for by various agencies and counties throughout Michigan sometimes result in the dollars not being spent. At the end of the State fiscal year these excess funds are then available through the DNR for a quick grant. For example, last year the Sheriff’s Department received funding for a new snowmobile to patrol snowmobile trails.

3
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  SEPTEMBER 22, 1998

Undersheriff Bjorne further explained that the DNR will know by noon Friday, September 25th if quick grant funds are available. If so the Sheriff’s Department would like to purchase a 20 foot patrol boat, 90 horse power outboard motor, and trailer which would replace the 1979 Boston Whaler Boat. The County’s share is 25% of the estimated $48,000, with funding to come from the Capital Improvement Fund. The Sheriff’s Department was hoping to replace just the outboard motor which would have cost around $12,000 but now has the opportunity to replace the boat, motor, and trailer for the same amount. Steve Powers, County Administrator, further explained that the Special Operations Budget which is supported by the Search and Rescue millage will not be able to fund the 25% County share because of unanticipated changes such as the KI Sawyer location and move, the shift of road patrol deputy positions for Special Operations, and indirect cost charges.

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 approve of an expenditure of up to $12,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the DNR quick grant for the purchase of 20 foot patrol boat, 90 horse power outboard motor, and trailer.

The Committee considered a draft grant agreement submitted by Marquette County to the Federal Aviation Administration for a grant of federal funds transferred from the Economic Development Administration for the construction and furnishing of the Passenger Terminal Building with parking lot, renovation of an airport maintenance building, and construction of Airport improvements, including relocation of precision approach path indicators and new runway indicator lights. Steve Powers, County Administrator, recommended that the Board approve the draft grant agreement and authorize the Chair to sign after review by Civil Counsel. The Grant Agreement is consistent with past grant agreements and action is needed by the County Board before the end of September, the federal fiscal year. The grant provides for $2,151,000 of the federal dollars for the terminal construction project.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the draft grant agreement submitted to the FAA for a grant of funds transferred from the EDA for the Sawyer Airport Terminal Construction.

The Committee considered a draft grant agreement that Marquette County has submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration for a grant of federal funds for projects at Sawyer Airport for grooving the existing runway 1-19 (12,300 feet x 150 feet), construction terminal building phase III (approximately 28,300 square feet), install VOR/DEM, install terminal apron lights and GA apron lights, and rehabilitate three hangars. Steve Powers, County Administrator, recommends the Board approve the draft agreement and authorize the Chair to sign after review by Civil Counsel. The grant offer is in the amount of $2,272,900 and must be approved by the end of September, the federal fiscal year.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the draft of the FAA/MAP Grant as presented.

The Committee considered a letter from Steve Adamini, County Airport Board Chairperson, regarding the winter absence of George Keskimaki. Last winter the Board amended the rules and appointed an alternative member to fill Mr. Keskimaki’s place on the Airport Board during his absence.

Comm. Rapport expressed concern with the Board continuing such a policy. She thought Mr. Keskimaki’s leave last year was because of his health and did not realize this was to become an annual event. She urged the Board to reconsider this policy during the December appointment process.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board appoint Comm. Roberts to serve on the Airport Board temporarily in place of Mr. Keskimaki until the end of December 1998 and further the County Board would reconsider the situation during the annual appointment process.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  COUNTY OF MARQUETTE  SEPTEMBER 22, 1998

Comm. Rapport, Chairperson of the County Sesquicentennial Committee provided an update on Sesquicentennial activities. First, she read a letter from 98 year old Esther Johnson Magnuson who served as a Deputy Register of Deeds from 1921 to 1933. Ms. Magnuson is in failing health, lives in Olin, Iowa and would like to but cannot attend the Sesquicentennial.

Comm. Rapport noted that Ms. Magnuson can be excused but Commissioners aren’t. This Thursday, September 24th, from 5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. tours of the Courthouse will be conducted. Refreshments will be served. There will be an art exhibit by local artists, music will be provided, and then at 7:00 P.M. there will be a reenactment of the Roosevelt/Newitt Trial. She invited everyone to come to the Sesquicentennial celebration.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin reminded Commissioners of the Democratic Executive Committee meeting to be held at the Northwoods, Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:00 P.M. to select a candidate to run for District 1 Commissioner. Twenty-five Executive Committee Members must be present for a quorum.

Chairperson Corkin reminded all Commissioners interested in attending the Upper Peninsula Association of County Commissioners Fall Meeting to contact Karla, Administrative Aide.

Chairperson Corkin reported that he attended the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame Breakfast on behalf of Marquette County and also attended the ceremony where the Cliff Shaft Mine was transferred from Cleveland-Cliffs to the Marquette Iron Range Mining Heritage Theme Park, Inc.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, reported that the Sawyer Airport is on a very short list to host Boeing 757 winter tests for NASA. The NASA Langley Research Center of Hampton, Virginia; on behalf of NASA, the FAA, and Transport Canada is planning to conduct winter testing in the January/February 1999 timeframe. It is also possible the FAA may conduct similar testing with Boeing 727’s at about the same time. The testing team would consist of approximately 50 people and the economic impact would reach far into the community as they would require contracts for rooms, meals, aircraft servicing, car rental, etc. NASA has scheduled a team to visit Sawyer in mid October.

Administrator Powers also noted that Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, has recently been recognized by his peers as Airport Director of the Year. Congratulations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET HEARINGS HELD ON AUGUST 26, 1998 AND THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1998.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Airport Improvement Grant from FAA for Construction of the Sawyer Passenger
Terminal.
7. V Bid Award for Sawyer Building #403 - Roof Flashing Repair.
8. V Bid Award for Sawyer Building #730 - Roof Repair.
10. Solid Waste Management Plan Update.
11. Letter from Sheriff Michael Lovelace to the U.S. Dept. of Justice regarding the
COPS FAST Grant.
12. Marquette County Tourism Profile from the Michigan Association of Counties.
13. BISEOC Buil 13-1-13-7
14. Letter 6 Editr
15. Application to DNR for Boat Purchase
16. EDA Grant Act Draft (FAA)
17. V FAA
18. PUBLIC COMMENT.
19. ANNOUNCEMENTS.
20. ADJOURNMENT.