BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COUNTY OF MARQUETTE AUGUST 25, 1998

The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, August 25, 1998 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on August 11, 1998 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following changes: Delete item 6) Report on a request from Charles Pierson, A-1 Shooting Sports; Add agenda items 19-24; 19) Acceptance of Prime Lease for Bldg. 817; 20) Acceptance of lease termination of Bruno Martin Bldgs. 513, 528 and 545; 21) Approval of official request for OEA funds in the amount of $445,225; 22) Approval of draft EDA III Project List; 23) Waiver of Youth Center Bldg. 947 lease requirement security deposit; and 24) Re-authorization of the EDA by the federal government.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period August 7, 1998 through August 20, 1998, in the amount of $1,609,771.10 be approved.

The Committee considered a letter from Gary Niemala, Skandia Truss, regarding Building Code Requirements for Roof Structures. He feels that Marquette County’s snow load requirements for roof structures are too low. Local government has the authority to exceed the BOCA Code rules but must, at a minimum, match them. He requests the County Board to read Chapter 16 of the BOCA Code and re-adjust the County’s snow load requirement from 36-42# per sq.ft. to a minimum of 54# per sq.ft. as soon as possible.

Don Pawlowski, Executive Director, Home Builders Assoc., was present and explained that the Home Builders Association has been moving forward with the snow load issue in Marquette County for about three months. They would like to see the State give the authority to the jurisdiction of the inspector to support snow loads in their particular County. Mr. Pawlowski stated that the Marquette County Building Department wants to wait for a ground snow change which has been recommended at 70#. This change will come, but it will take years. Marquette County has just recently (1998) adopted the 1996 BOCA Code. The next BOCA Code revision is 1999 and will take over two years to adopt after that time. The Home Builders Association is meeting on September 3, 1998 and will being a recommendation to the County Board.

Bill Hetrick, Hetrick & Assoc. Insurance Agency, was also present to explain the many failures and costs that just his agency alone has paid in the past year because of truss failures.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole wait for a recommendation from the Home Builders Association. The communication was placed on file.

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The Committee considered the Sawyer Lumber Company Housing Lease and Sublease. The Economic Development Committee unanimously approved of Sawyer Lumbers’ request for housing units. There are sixty units which are all duplexes. Sawyer Lumber will pay lease rent at the rate of $50.00 per month, of $600 per year for each of those units. A security deposit of $6,000 is to be paid. The term of the Sublease will be for one year, with automatic renewals of up to four additional consecutive terms of one year each. The Sublease provides that Sawyer Lumber will have an option to purchase the units for $5,000 each, or a total of $300,000 anytime after the County acquires title from the Air Force.
Comm. Arsenault explained that these terms were verbally agreed upon in September 1997, which explains the apparent inconsistency with the JBF Study recommendations.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Sawyer Lumber Company Housing Prime Lease and Sublease. (This recommendation will be considered at a Special Meeting of the County Board immediately following this meeting).

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The Committee considered Grant Amendment No. 2 - Grant Increase for Superior Extrusion, Inc. Infrastructure Project. The purpose of this amendment is to increase Marquette County's Michigan CDBG MSC 960037-EDIG, the Superior Extrusion, Inc. Infrastructure Project. The grant increase is for $542,000. The reason for the grant increase is that MDOT Category "A" funds for County Road 460-462 Connector Road Improvements are being replaced with CDBG funds per an agreement between the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Michigan Jobs Commission.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Joseph and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes and 1 Abstention (Comm. Arsenault), that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve Grant Amendment No. 2 - Grant Increase for Superior Extrusion, Inc. Infrastructure Project in the amount of $542,000.

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The Committee considered Sawyer Lease Amendment: Northern Michigan University Aviation Maintenance School. Lawrence E. Coehoorn, Development Manager, requests an amendment to the airport lease to include Nose Dock Hanger 663. The airport intends on leasing this hanger to Northern Michigan University as an Airframe and Powerplant (A & P) school. Graduates of this course are then certified as aircraft mechanics.

The FAA is changing requirements and NMU is positioning itself to produce graduates qualified to work on passenger carrying aircraft. (Many existing schools will not produce this type of student after the changes are legislatively enacted). This will also support growth of aviation jobs at Sawyer.

The timeframe desired for this lease is January 1, 1999. During the lease processing NMU will be working design and securing education grants to renovate the building for laboratories and classrooms. The community plan is to open the hanger as a school next August.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Sawyer Lease Amendment to include Nose Dock Hanger 663 for the Northern Michigan University Aviation Maintenance School.

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The Committee considered Mid-Year Budget Amendments. Gary Yoder, Finance Manager, explained that there are several budget amendments affecting 1998 budgets for the general and other funds. Amendments 8 and 9 carry forward balance of items for which the County was obligated at year end 1997. Amendments 10 through 28 adjust other funds to bring revenue and expense into line at the mid-year point. In several cases, the amendments are adjusting actions previously taken by the Board. Amendment 29 adjusts the General Fund at mid-year. With the amendment the General Fund increases the contingency account by $77,000 to $217,648.

Major Revenue changes include: Increase to initiate the Prosecuting Attorney's Domestic Violence Grant $169,173; Increase for Indian Gaming Tax amounts passed through to the Dental Clinic and for the D.A.R.E. Program $63,000; Increase for prison case reimbursement from the state for cases in late 1997 and early 1998 $130,000; and Increase in building permit fees primarily for M.G.H. expansion $77,000.
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Major Expense changes include: Reduced appropriation to Child Care Fund due to state paying their half of the costs. Saving of $143,958; Increase in Circuit Court legal fees for the prison cases mentioned above of $58,000; Increase for Prosecutor’s Domestic Violence Grant of $169,173; Increase for Dental Clinic from Indian Gaming and F.I.A. County Hospitalization Program of $136,600.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt all Mid-Year Budget Amendments.

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The Committee considered a Gaming License Resolution for a Dental Clinic Raffle. The Children’s Dental Clinic is having a “raffle” to raise money. This resolution is required by the State to be completed by the County’s governing body stating that the organization is a recognized nonprofit organization in the community.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the Gaming License Resolution for a Dental Clinic Raffle, contingent upon legal review.

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The Committee considered a Professional Services Agreement between Tom Flynn and the Marquette County EMS Medical Control Authority. This Agreement will provide the necessary support to begin updating the County EMS Protocols and Medical Control Plan. Project implementation is to begin September 1, 1998.

The Agency shall provide payment to the Contractor in the amount of $450.00 per month, not to exceed $1,800.00 for the services to be performed under this agreement. Requests for compensation shall be itemized in accordance with monthly financial and activity reports. The Contractor agrees to provide the Agency with appropriate records, reports, and documentation as requested by said Agency. Failure to provide said records, and documentation will result in the suspension of any further payments provided under this agreement.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Professional Services Agreement between Tom Flynn and the Marquette County EMS Medical Control Authority, contingent upon Administrative/Legal Review.

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The Committee considered a memo from Gerald R. Peterson, Marquette City Manager, regarding Exploration of Parking Needs. Mr. Peterson explained that the City of Marquette has an established Downtown Development Authority which is charged with making recommendations to the Marquette City Commission about business development activity and infrastructure support in the downtown area. Recently, the Authority has begun an evaluation of parking in the downtown area. Towards this end it has performed a variety of parking studies for the City and much discussion has occurred amongst board members relative to this issue.

Through these discussions, the possibility of constructing a parking ramp adjacent to the County Building to support the parking needs of the County for its employees and visitors appears to be a project which could be supported by the DDA to help alleviate the pressures this use places on other parking facilities with the City. The Authority may have significant dollars which it can contribute toward the project. The City, including the Mayor, Mr. Peterson, and Mike Skyttä, representing the DDA, would like to discuss the opportunity for pursuing this project.

Chairperson Corkin explained that Administrative Powers and himself attended a meeting with City Officials and the Marquette County DDA and they would like County participation to explore potential long range parking needs. Chairperson Corkin recommends participation.

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 continue participation with the City of Marquette to develop a parking plan in the downtown area. Comm. Rapport was requested to attend these meetings.

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The Committee considered Appointees to the CUPPAD Regional Commission. In accordance with the bylaws, the CUPPAD Regional Commission will be holding its election of officers at the October 23rd meeting in Manistique. Under the revised bylaws, there are 37 members on the Commission. Each County appoints six (6) members to the Commission, with the 37th member appointed by the Hannahville Indian Community.

CUPPAD is requesting that Marquette County appoint four representatives to the Commission. The appointees should represent the County Board, County Planning Commission (either a member or a county employee) and two members-at-large. David Gillis, Executive Director, is requesting the appointments be made by September 15th to give the Nominating Committee time to develop a slate of officers. Current appointees are County Board: Gerald Corkin; Planning Commission: Lynn Coehoorn; Member-at-Large: Fran Roberts; and Member-at-Large: Gerald Anderson.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board reappoint the four current members to the CUPPAD Regional Commission.

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The Committee considered a letter from Thomas Freeman, Michigan Jobs Commission, regarding Public Hearings on the Michigan CDBG Program. The public hearing in Marquette County will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 1998, 10:00 A.M. to Noon, at the Marquette Holiday Inn. The National Affordable Housing Act authorizes funds to continue certain existing federal housing and community development programs including the Michigan CDBG Program. Before receiving any funds under the Act, states must submit a Consolidated Plan to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development that identifies their housing and community development needs and proposes how those needs will be addressed during the next five years. In Michigan, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) is responsible for preparing the Michigan Consolidated Plan.

All interested parties are invited to attend one of the public hearings and submit any comments for the Michigan Consolidated Plan. Additionally, organizations developing projects that may require funding from programs covered in the Michigan Consolidated Plan are encouraged to attend and to share their development plans with the Authority at the hearings. Information gathered during the public hearings will be used to develop the Michigan Consolidated Plan.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board pass a resolution of support requesting the Planning Commission continue to pursue housing programs in Marquette County and attend the public hearing on September 2, 1998.

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The Committee considered Administrative Rules Governing Construction and Renovations of Jails and Lockups. The 1995 jail rules were antiquated and many of the rules were superseded by legislation. As a result, the Department of Corrections, with input from the Michigan Sheriffs’ Association Jail Committee, revised the jail rules. The revised rules parallel the American Corrections Association (ACA) mandatory standards and address life safety issues in the facility. The revised rules were filed with the Secretary of State on July 28, 1998, and take effect August 13, 1998.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Administrative Rules Governing Construction and Renovations of Jails and Lockups be accepted for information and placed on file.

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Comm. Tuominen gave a brief update on the Commission on Aging. The Commission on Aging received all the grant money they applied for, however it amounts to only $98,000 for FY 1999. The grant money last year was approximately $121,000, but there are cuts across the board all over the Upper Peninsula. There will be adjustments made in February of 1999.

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The Committee considered Prime Lease, Building #817 at K.I.Sawyer. A prime lease was originally requested for Building #817 to allow its use by Sawyer Medical Center. Expansion of the Medical Center concept has resulted in a pending lease for Building #939 instead. AFBCA has completed its processing of the prime lease for Building #817 and the County of Marquette needs to decide if it will execute that lease and take possession of the building without a tenant.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the Prime Lease for Building #817 at K.I.Sawyer.

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The Committee considered Lease Termination of Bruno Martin Buildings #513, #528, and #545. Last month, Pat Gruber, Development Coordinator, requested the County Board authorize execution of a previously negotiated amendment to the Bruno Martin lease upon arrival of the documents from the Air Force. The site in question is on land owned by the County and leased to the Air Force. The Air Force recently changed their policies with respect to land under the 99-year lease. Instead of using a new lease (sublease back to the County), they will be terminating the 99-year lease.

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 accept the Lease Termination of Bruno Martin Buildings #513, #528, and #545.

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The Committee considered an official request for Office of Economic Adjustment Funds in the amount of $445,225 for the period June 1, 1998 through May 31, 1999. This is approximately 75% of what the County received last year. The majority of OEA Funds have to be used for the planning process.

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 accept the request for the OEA funds in the amount of $445,225 for the period June 1, 1998 through May 31, 1999.

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The Committee of the Whole met on Tuesday, August 25, 1998, they considered a draft of the Economic Development Administration III Project List, and that opportunities, including EDA, for funding current Marquette County Airport Sewer System improvements and West Branch Fitness Center roof repairs be investigated. Several organizations were involved in the development of this list, including CUPPAD, the Road Commission, and Mark Poupore, Interim Director, EDC.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the recommendation and approve the draft Economic Development Administration III Project, and that the opportunities, including EDA, for funding current Marquette County Airport sewer system improvements and West Branch Fitness Center roof repairs be investigated.

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The Committee considered a recommendation regarding Building #947 at K.I.Sawyer. Forsyth Township is leasing the Youth Center, Building #947, and is a public entity, therefore, the lease requirement for a security deposit in the amount of $1,000 should be waived.

It was moved by Comm. Joseph, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board waive the $1,000 lease requirement for a security deposit for the Youth Center, Building #947.

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The Committee considered a recommendation that the County Board investigate and support the re-authorization of the Economic Development Administration by the Federal Government. Comm. Rapport explained that there is legislation that will re-authorize EDA funding. She has contacted Representative Stupak and Senator Levin requesting the exact number of the legislation and she has not yet received a response.
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 draft a letter to our Federal Legislators informing them of Marquette County’s support for re-authorization of the Economic Development Administration funding.

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

The Committee considered an update from Comm. Rapport regarding the Sesquicentennial Committee. Comm. Rapport explained that the Sesquicentennial Committee was considering a 3-dimensional sculpture which would commemorate Marquette County’s Sesquicentennial year, and also thank individuals who have worked for this County and have provided public service. The Committee was looking at a site in the green area around the Courthouse and asked for artists to submit proposals. In addition, the Committee wished to have input from County employees. 100 employees cast votes on the various sculptures, and over 60% requested that no sculpture be placed on the Courthouse Grounds. Their reasons were that the sculpture would take away from a beautiful Courthouse and Courthouse Grounds. They did not wish to be commemorated in this way. Comm. Rapport feels that since the Committee asked for opinions from County employees they have to honor their request.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board authorize Comm. Rapport to write a letter to the artists who have submitted proposals for the sculpture informing them that the Sesquicentennial Committee regrets the project will not move forward at this time.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Connie M. Branam
Deputy County Clerk
ROLL CALL.


PUBLIC COMMENT.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Review of Claims and Accounts.


Letter from Gary Niemela, Skandia Truss, regarding Building Code Requirements for Roof Structures.

Sawyer Lumber Company Housing Lease and Sublease.

Grant Amendment No. 2 - Grant Increase for Superior Extrusion, Inc. Infrastructure Project.

Sawyer Lease Amendment: Northern Michigan University Aviation Maintenance School.

Mid-Year Budget Amendments.

Gaming License Resolution for Dental Clinic Raffle.

Professional Services Agreement between Tom Flynn and Marquette County EMS Medical Control Authority.

Exploration of Parking Needs.

CUPPAD Regional Commission Appointees.

Public Hearing on the Michigan CDBG Program, Wednesday, September 2, 1998, 10:00 A.M. to Noon, Marquette Holiday Inn.

Administrative Rules Governing Construction and Renovations of Jails and Lockups.

Commission on Aging Update from Commissioner Tuominen (no packet material).

PUBLIC COMMENT.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT.