The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, May 11, 1999 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 April 27, 1999 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Tuominen and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late addition: Item 9) KI Sawyer Heritage Air Museum Lease/Purchase Agreement Amendment, and Item 10) Prosecutor’s Request to Apply for an Office of Criminal Justice Grant.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Curto and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period April 23, 1999, through May 6, 1999 in the amount of $626,660.72 be approved.

The Committee considered a Construction Contract for the airfield grading and removal of obstructions in the amount of $385,872 to the low bidder, Bacco Construction. Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, was present and explained that funding for this project is included in the FY 1998 Military Airports Program Grant previously received. The Contractors plan to begin work as soon as possible. The grooving of the runway 19, repairing deteriorated concrete slabs and cracks on the runway, and removal of obstructions is necessary before the Sawyer International Airport opens in September of 1999.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the Construction Contract with Bacco Construction in the amount of $385,872 for airfield grading and removal of obstructions to runway 19 safety area at Sawyer International Airport.

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The Committee considered a Construction Contract with Allstate Electrical, Inc. the low bidder to construct terminal and general aviation lights, parking lot lights, and the installation of precision approach path indicators (PAPI’s). The contract is in the amount of $190,901. Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, was present to answer questions regarding the Contract. The bids were opened by the Michigan Bureau of Aeronautics. Funding for this project is from a combination of the FY 1998 MAP Grant and the EDA Phase II Grant.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Curto, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the Construction Contract with Allstate Electric for the installation of Navails and lighting.

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The Committee considered a memo from Steve Powers, County Administrator, regarding the proposed ORV Ordinance. He distributed an opinion from Harley Andrews, Civil Counsel, regarding Townships and Off Road Vehicle Ordinances. The opinion was requested as a result of questions raised at a May 5th Marquette County Townships Association Meeting: 1) Do the individual Townships have the authority to pass their own ORV Ordinances? 2) Is it possible for individual Townships to opt out of this Ordinance? If a Township opts out, what signage will be required? and 3) If each entrance to a subdivision is marked as closed, will this be sufficient to address the prohibitive use of all streets in said subdivision? The opinion from Harley Andrews has been distributed to all Townships through the Marquette County Townships Association.

Michael Lovelace, County Sheriff, was present to discuss the proposed ORV Ordinance and answer questions. Sheriff Lovelace expressed some concern regarding enforcement of an ORV Ordinance and safety issues. He will place his concerns in writing for Commissioners review by June 3rd.
In order to give all Marquette County Townships, law enforcement agencies, and planning staff time to respond it was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Roberts and unanimously carried by voice vote that the proposed Marquette County ORV Ordinance be placed on the June 8, 1999 Committee of the Whole Agenda, and further that a notice be sent to all Townships requesting their response in writing by June 3, 1999.

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The Committee considered an amendment of the KI Sawyer Heritage Air Museum Lease/Purchase Agreement at Sawyer. Comm. Arsenault, Chairperson of the KI-EDC, noted that the change in the lease terms would provide that the Heritage Air Museum lease payments would apply to the purchase of Buildings 537 and 540. The KISHAM is a nonprofit organization eligible to receive grants and donations. The two buildings valued at approximately $11,000 would enrich the quality of life and preserve an important part of Sawyer's history.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve an Amendment to the Lease/Purchase Agreement with the KI Sawyer Heritage Air Museum so that all lease payments for Buildings 537 and 540 be applied towards the purchase price.

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The Committee considered a request from Gary L. Walker, Prosecuting Attorney, for approval of a grant application to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for a Safe Start Initiative Grant. Prosecutor Walker was present and explained that the Safe Start Initiative is a project demonstration designed to prevent and reduce the impact of violence on young children, ages 0 through 6. Eligible applicants for a Safe Start Demonstration Project are communities that have formed a strong collaborative group to address the impact that exposure to violence has on young children. Twelve cooperative agreements, up to $670,000 each for an initial 18 month budget period, will be awarded with no local match required. Marquette County stands a reasonable chance of success given the number of community based initiatives already in place. Prosecutor Walker proposed to apply for this grant with Marquette County as its lead agency. He has discussed the Safe Start Initiative with Administrator Steve Powers, Probate Judge Michael Anderegg, and Health Department Director Randall Johnson, and has their support.

The Safe Start Initiative Grant Application is due June 14, 1999 and Prosecutor requests County Board approval to begin the application process. Should a grant be offered, Mr. Walker will come back to the County Board for final approval.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Grant Application to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for the Safe Start Initiative Project.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Comm. Bergdahl, EDC President, noted that he and Herb Parsons, EDC Director, met with Warren Schroeder, from the Chicago EDA Office for two hours earlier today. The EDA wanted an overview of EDC activities during the last few years regarding the CANAM Highway Study, Ventures Capital Study, Procurement Center, and Revolving Loan Fund. No flags were raised. The EDA only wanted to know how our EDC was working. Marquette County's EDC is in good shape as long as the EDC Board has final approval of all loans.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, announced that the Lake Superior Community Partnership along with WKQS/FM Sunny 102 Radio are hosting a celebration on behalf of all who assisted in recent wildfires in Marquette County. The celebration is Saturday, May 15th, Ishpeming Elks Lodge, social hour 5:00 to 7:00 P.M., brief program 7:00 P.M., music and dancing 7:30 to midnight.
Chairperson Corkin, on behalf of the County Board, thanked all agencies, public and private, and volunteers who assisted in the recent wildfire fighting effort. The list includes but is not limited to the Michigan DNR, Emergency Management Staff, Sheriff's Department Staff, County Administrator Staff, local fire departments, members of township government, county government, State Senator Koivisto, State Representative Prusi, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and the many volunteers. Chairperson Corkin also noted that the air support, which was the main ingredient which stopped the spread of the wildfires, was procured by the assistance of Congressman Stupak, U.S. Senators Carl Levin and Spencer Abraham, and Lt. Governor Dick Posthumous. It was truly a team effort. The damage was serious enough but it could have been much worse. Chairperson Corkin will be in attendance at the celebration at Saturday, May 15th and encouraged other to also attend.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 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
MEETING HELD ON April 27, 1999.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Construction Contract for Airfield Grading at Sawyer International Airport.
7. Construction Contract to Install Navaids and Lighting at Sawyer International
Airport.
8. Discussion on Proposed ORV Ordinance.
9. Museum Lease Lease FTA
10. Office of Juvenile Justice Grant
11. 
12. 
13. PUBLIC COMMENT.
14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
15. ADJOURNMENT.