The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 1, 2000 at 7:00 P.M. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, Michigan.


A salute to the flag was given followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Comm. Arsenault, seconded by Comm. Roberts and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the County Board Meeting held on January 18, 2000 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following addition: Item 11a) Strategic Planning.

Chairperson Corkin read the following list of the County of Marquette 1999 Accomplishments:

**COUNTY OF MARQUETTE 1999 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Through the policy leadership of the Board of Commissioners and the diligent effort of elected officials, employees, and volunteers, Marquette County completed numerous projects in 1999. Tangible results were achieved as a result of cooperative efforts among federal, state, city, and township governments, special districts, and non-profit organizations. Marquette County's accomplishments mirror the goals and objectives of the Board of Commissioners.

**INFORM THROUGH TECHNOLOGY**
- Sawyer International Airport and K.I. Sawyer are part of Lake Superior Community Partnership Web page, MARQUETTE.ORG
- Developed marketing literature, videos, website, and related materials, and linked commercial property listing to MARQUETTE.ORG
- Received grant to map coastal townships
- Developed capability to produce computerized maps of varying subject matter
- Completed mine inspection data base and map
- Completed forest inventory for County forest and K. I. Sawyer property
- Prepared for Y2K
- Operated emergency operations center and 24-hour Wildfire Hotline for Tower Lake Fire

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
- Sold former Marquette County Airport for 1.8 million dollars
- Constructed, opened and dedicated new 3.3 million dollar terminal at Sawyer International Airport
- Constructed 15 new t-hangars for storage of private aircraft
- Received 2.6 million dollar Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and Military Airport Program (MAP) grant
- Hosted testing program conducted by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Installed new roof, loading dock, heat system, barrier free access and restroom in building 730
- Assisted in formation, funding, and activities of K.I. Sawyer Business Alliance
- Received extended caretaker heat conversion funding for K.I. Sawyer
- Negotiated & executed agreements to acquire approximately 2,000 acres of non-airport property
- Developed Early Access Policy and Procedure to shorten delay in occupancy time for tenants
Awarded 1 million dollars from Economic Development Administration for airport improvements, building improvements, and roads

Continued steady increase in total number of people employed and square footage occupied at K.I. Sawyer. December 1999: 1,095 employees; 40 employers; 550,000 square feet

Obtained $2.5 million more funding, expended $300,000 for stand-alone heating systems in six buildings

Attended trade shows on call centers, air cargo, site location consultants

Won RAID Award. “Facility-of-the-Year” recognition among all Army / Navy / Air Force bases

Standardized the means for determining tax/lease value of items left by Air Force

Received bill of sale for equipment, furniture, vehicles, etc., as part of conveyance process

Increased total lease/sale revenue and average rent per square foot

Approved and executed four loans to K.I. Sawyer employers, averaging $150,000 each

Relocated two tenants in anticipation of improvements / marketing to large user

Recruited American Communications Network Call Center, negotiated terms, and began building improvements for 100-200 employee facility

Recruited Delphi Automotive, negotiated terms, and began building improvements for automotive-related testing activities

Completed $60,000 in perimeter, PBT, and EDC surveys as part of conveyances from Air Force

Concluded Red Fox Woods project involving large-scale recreation/resort

**PARTNERSHIPS**

- K.I. Sawyer Economic Development Committee continued monthly public meetings involving County and township officials in major redevelopment decisions
- Initiated marketing program with the Lake Superior Community Partnership
- Received a grant totaling over $300,000 from planning agency of Department of Defense
- Assisted Sawyer Lumber and MDOT in planning for and financing new rail spur
- Through support and assistance from Governor’s Office and Michigan Economic Development Corporation, obtained $200,000 from Strategic Fund for use in redevelopment efforts and $300,000 for economic development services
- Resolved Base Lake and Youth Center acquisition/use through cooperative efforts with Forsyth Township
- Approved land conveyance to Powell Township for public safety project
- Expanded contract patrol with Marquette Township using COPS Grant
- Approved funding for Conservation District Watershed Coordinator
- Extended Sawyer caretaker program through negotiations and execution of 5-year agreement for $1.5 million per year which covers public works, roads, vehicles, water, wastewater, security, and administrative staff
- Obtained Renaissance Zone designation. Negotiated and executed 1,250-acre 15-year tax-free zone to attract new employers
- Helped initiate Commercial Air Service Study with Bureau of Aeronautics and Lake Superior Community Partnership
- Leased space in Health Department building (7,500 sq. ft.) to DEQ
- Convened periodic meetings of city and township administrators to discuss items of mutual interest
- Acted as Census 2000 Liaison, developed LUCA addressing, and boundary/annexation maps
- Helped fund and prepare with League of Women Voters a guide to Marquette County Government
Completed County Solid Waste Plan, reviewed draft Solid Waste Ordinance and developed two determinations of plan consistency

Obtained grant funding for Information Technology for Intergovernmental Cooperation project involving over 30 organizations

Presented training sessions regarding Sexual Harassment in the workplace with over 165 supervisors and staff from the County, Health Department, Medical Care Facility, Road Commission, and City of Marquette

**PRESEVERE AND ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE**

- Secured 50-year lease on approximately 2,000 acres of aviation-related and revenue-producing property through Airport Public Benefit Transfer (PBT)
- Began preliminary design and completed environmental assessment for North Access Road to airport terminal
- Implemented Community Policing Program and provided $96,000 funding and housing for two Sheriff deputies to serve GIS for three years
- Negotiated and funded, with Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and Kellogg Foundation, transition of Sawyer Fitness Center from West Branch Township to YMCA
- Started court security program for Circuit and District Courts
- Received continuation of federal Violence Against Women grant
- Funded retention of COPS grant positions
- Continued DARE program, teaching over 400 fifth and sixth grade students about the hazards of drug and alcohol use
- Completed Sugarloaf Trail Restoration
- Expanded Childrens Dental Clinic to south County of Marquette
- Contracted with CUPPAD for a Trail Rationalization Plan
- Applied for and received Neighborhood Preservation Grant
- Applied for and received Perkins Park II Grant
- Renovated Perkins Park Lift Station
- Began Habitat Improvement Initiative

**PROGRAM EFFICIENCY**

- Continued reorganization of County Administration
- Began customer service questionnaires
- Completed GIS Implementation Plan
- Implemented defined contribution plan for employees
- Completed District Court remodeling
- Installed new financial and payroll software
- Consolidated Fire / Security Forces at K.I. Sawyer
- Implemented new medical plan for all non-union employees and selected bargaining unit groups providing expanded preventative medicine options at no increased cost
- Staffed over 50 vacant positions utilizing collectively bargained job posting process, as well as internal and external recruitment efforts. Key vacancies include marketing coordinator, management analyst, GIS technician, and financial analyst
- Developed a structured interview format specific to vacancies and provided interview questions to department heads, as requested
- Took over responsibility for Risk Management activities including property, casualty, liability and workers compensation insurances, contract review, and workplace safety issues
ROADS
- Approved funding for improvements to Road Commission facility
- Funded "Adopt a Road" program
- M-94 designated at K.I. Sawyer
- Requested federal and state funding for business route through K.I. Sawyer
- Briefed Governor and legislators on road issues
- Provided storage space at K.I. Sawyer for Road Commission

HUMAN RESOURCES and TECHNOLOGY
- Increased technology training for employees
- Began planning and funding for 800 MHz radio system
- Started Intranet system
- Completed installation and training for automated telephone answering/voice mail system
- Established a joint labor/management committee to review job content and classifications

Chairperson Corkin thanked the County Board and Staff for their hard work during 1999.
It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County of Marquette 1999 Accomplishments be accepted and placed on file.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the following informational items be accepted and placed on file:

a. Letter from Bud Shuster, Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. Congress, regarding Chicago O'Hare Airport Service to Small Communities.

b. Letter from Betty Mercer, Division Director, Office of Highway Safety Planning, Michigan State Police, regarding Federal Funds for Highway Safety Project "Operation Nightcap."

c. Letter from John Evans, Administrator, Child Care Fund, Office of Juvenile Justice, regarding State Reimbursement for 1999/00 Child Care Fund.

d. Letter from Kevin Koch, Attorney-at-law, regarding Specific Ore Tax Memo of Treasurer Sodergren.

e. Open House, US Census Bureau, Thursday, February 10, 2000, 5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M., Pioneer Square Building, Ishpeming.

ACTION ITEMS

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Action Items 10a, 10b, 10c, 10d, 10e, and 10f, be approved as follows:

10a) Claims and Accounts for the period January 21 through January 27, 2000 in the amount of $854,557.94 be approved.

10b) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve an Access and Visitation Grant Agreement and also and Agreement with Child and Family Services in an amount of $21,612, 10% local match provided by in-kind services from Child and Family Services.

10c) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve the Clean Michigan Initiative Grant - Perkins Park Development Project Phase II, authorize Chairperson Corkin to sign the Agreement by adopting the following resolution:
RESOLUTION
PERKINS PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

"Resolved, that the County of Marquette, Michigan, does hereby accept the terms of the Agreement as received from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and that the County does hereby specifically agree, but not by way of limitation, as follows:

1. Appropriate the sum of Eighty-Six Thousand, Six Hundred, and Seventy Dollars ($86,670) to match the grant authorized by the DEPARTMENT and to appropriate such additional funds as shall be necessary to complete the project.
2. To maintain satisfactory financial accounts, documents, and records to make them available to the DEPARTMENT for auditing at reasonable times.
3. To construct the project and provide such funds, services, and materials as may be necessary to satisfy the terms of said Agreement.
4. To regulate the use of the facility constructed and reserved under this Agreement to assure the use thereof by the public on equal and reasonable terms.
5. To comply with any and all terms of said Agreement including all terms not specifically set forth in the foregoing portions of this Resolution."

Adopted this 1st day of February, 2000
Gerald O. Corkin, Chairperson
Marquette County Board of Commissioners

10d) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a request form Mary Buchman, Probate Court Employee, to purchase one year of generic service credit towards retirement from the County of Marquette as per the following MERS Resolution:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the county of Marquette is a member of the Municipal Employees Retirement System of Michigan (MERS), and;

WHEREAS, the Municipal Employees Retirement System of Michigan provides retirement benefits for the employees of the County of Marquette, and;

WHEREAS, the County of Marquette believes that employees should be allowed to realize the maximum retirement benefits that are available without increased costs to the County, and;

WHEREAS, the Municipal Employees Retirement System of Michigan provides for the availability for purchase of additional service credit toward retirement with governing body approval, and;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the County of Marquette Board of Commissioners authorizes the purchase of any available additional service credit toward retirement from the County of Marquette, provided, that such purchase is in compliance with MERS provisions, and that the employee assumes full responsibility for the payment of both employer and employee portions of any expenses related to such purchase.

Signed February 19, 1997
David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk

10e) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a contract for Central Dispatch Radio Equipment Maintenance with El-Com Services, Inc. for a flat rate of $815 per month. Contract termination date is October 31, 2001.

10f) Committee of the Whole Recommendation to approve a claim from Johnson Controls for $985.50 for repair of the South County YMCA Swimming Pool Heat Control System.
LATE ADDITIONS

The County Board considered updating its Strategic Plan. Comm. Rapport noted that the last update was done in 1997 and has been very helpful during the budget process. The 1999 County of Marquette Accomplishments demonstrate the value of a Strategic Plan.

Comm. Wallace contended should the County Board update its Strategic Plan, it should be a three-year period at the most.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the County Board direct the County Administrator to develop a recommendation to incorporate an updated Strategic Plan as part of the FY 2001 budget process.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin met with the owner of Ramrod in Curtis, Wisconsin and had an opportunity to tour their plant. Ramrod is considering buying one of the Sault Tribe's buildings at Sawyer. If this works out Ramrod will be hiring more people at Sawyer. The County's only part of the process is heat conversion. It was a worthwhile trip.

Chairperson Corkin noted he reported on the County of Marquette 1999 Accomplishments at a meeting of the Rotary West. Administrator Powers showed the Marquette County EDC video and the Sawyer video. The Rotary West Group was very impressed.

Chairperson Corkin also noted a communication from Mike Etemaki to James Eckdahl, Upper Peninsula Field Deputy, Michigan DNR, regarding the Charlie Lakes Road transfer. The Road Commission has completed site excavations on State owned property for evaluation as gravel sources and found several sites to be acceptable. Once the transfer of property is completed the Road Commission will then proceed with the upgrade of the Charlie Lake Road to acceptable standards for plowing and its addition to the seasonal road system.

Comm. Tuominen distributed a letter to the Marquette County Road Commission from Arnold Sirtola, Ewing Township Supervisor, noting that there has been a positive change in the relationship between Ewing Township and the Marquette County Road Commission. The Township in the Fall of 1999 initiated a successful road millage request and formed a group of residents called the “Better Roads Committee.” These actions along with Mike Etemaki, Manager, will help resolve the long standing problem in Ewing Township with the roads.

Comm. Tuominen further reported that the Marquette County Road Commission is developing a Customer Service Questionnaire which is designed to help them with long range planning.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
ROLL CALL.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.


PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS.

PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

PUBLIC HEARINGS.

PRIVILEGED COMMENT:
   a. County of Marquette 1999 Accomplishments.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
   a. Letter from Bud Shuster, Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, U.S. Congress, regarding Chicago O'Hare Airport Service to Small Communities.
   b. Letter from Betty Mercer, Division Director, Office of Highway Safety Planning, Michigan State Police, regarding Federal Funds for Highway Safety Project "Operation Nightcap."
   c. Letter from John Evans, Administrator, Child Care Fund, Office of Juvenile Justice, regarding State Reimbursement for 1999/00 Child Care Fund.
   d. Letter from Kevin Koch, Attorney-at-Law, regarding Specific Ore Tax Memo of Treasurer Sodergren.
   e. Open House, US Census Bureau, Thursday, February 10, 2000, 5:00 P.M. to 6:30 P.M., Pioneer Square Building, Ishpeming.

ACTION ITEMS:
   a. Claims and Accounts.
   b. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve the Access and Visitation Grant Agreement and also an Agreement with Child and Family Services.
   c. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Clean Michigan Initiative Grant - Perkins Park Development Project Phase II.
   d. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Request by Mary Buchman, Probate Court Employee, to Purchase One Year of Service Credit Towards Retirement.
   e. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Contract for Central Dispatch Radio Equipment Maintenance with El-Com Services, Inc.
   f. Committee of the Whole Recommendation to Approve a Claim from Johnson Controls for Repair of the County YMCA South Swimming Pool Heating Control System.

LATE ADDITIONS:
   a. Strategic Planning

   b. 

   c. 

PUBLIC COMMENT. (time limit 20 minutes total)

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

*Committee of the Whole Meeting Rescheduled to Wednesday, February 9, 2000, 6:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT.