The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, September 28, 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. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on September 14, 1999 be approved.

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

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Roberts and unanimously carried by voice vote that the agenda be approved with the following late addition: Item 12) FY 1999 AIP Grant Amendment, Item 13) Amendment to the Marquette County Airport Sales Agreement, and Item 14) Purchase of a State Surplus Generator.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Curto and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period September 10, 1999 through September 23, 1999 in the amount of $975,113.31 be approved.

The Committee considered the FY 2000 recommended General Fund and Capital Improvement Fund Budgets. Steve Powers, County Administrator, distributed a summary of the recommended budget outlining the major expenditure and revenue issues along with the adjustments made through the Committee of the Whole budget process. The FY 2000 General Fund Budget is balanced with revenues and expenditures totaling $15,321,490. The FY 2000 Capital Improvement Budget is set at $742,485. Administrator Powers noted that the Soil Conservation District position is not funded by the General Fund but rather through the Forestry Fund. At the County Board’s annual meeting on October 12, 1999 he will present a summary of the General Fund Budget, the Capital Improvement Fund Budget, and all other County Funds including the Forestry Fund for County Board consideration and approval.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board adopt the FY 2000 General Fund balanced budget in the amount of $15,321,490 along with the FY 2000 Capital Improvement Fund Budget of $742,485 for presentation at the Annual Meeting scheduled for October 12, 1999.

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The Committee considered the Contract to continue the Community Corrections Program with the State of Michigan Department of Corrections. The Community Corrections Program is 100% State funded with total program and administrative expenses amounting to $87,900.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the FY 2000 Community Corrections Program Contract with the State of Michigan Department of Corrections.

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The Committee considered awarding the Contract for paving the access roads to the ILS glide slope and localizer; the critical area in front of the glide slope antenna; and access road from the ramp to the taxiway for more expeditious response to the runway by fire crash rescue vehicles; and T-hangar taxi streets.

Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, was present and explained that bids were opened on the projects on September 24th. Three bids were received with the low bid of $389,357.26 from A. Lindberg & Sons. This bid is less than the engineer’s estimate of $391,436.

Because it is late in the construction season and the County has a need to have this paving accomplished before winter, the contract is structured so work will be started by October 4th and completed in 15 calendar days. Hal Pawley further noted that prevailing wages are a requirement of all federally funded construction projects.

It was moved by Comm. Curto, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board award the Paving Contract No. FM52-4-C16 for Sawyer International Airport to A. Lindberg & Sons in the amount of $389,357.26.

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The Committee considered a recommendation for the Sawyer International Airport Terminal Concessions. Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, explained that Requests for Proposals for three concessions in the new SIA Passenger Terminal were published for vending machines, food services (snack bar/kiosk), and gift/news shop. Four proposals were received and a summary sheet of the proposals was distributed to the Commissioners along with other pertinent information in evaluating these proposals. It was noted the estimated financial payment to the Airport in all proposals is not substantial, ranging from $3,500 to $4,650 annually for all three concessions. Therefore, other factors are also important considerations such as, the amount of time to be operational and hours of operation.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, noted that previous experience with Northern Michigan Vending at the County Airport, plus the experience with Captain’s Restaurant at KI Sawyer, along with the startup time and hours of operations has lead to the following Staff recommendation: That Red Fox Woods be given the snack bar and gift/news concession, and that Northern Michigan Vending be given the vending machine concession.

Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, noted that Red Fox Woods’ proposal for hours of operation lists one hour before and after all flights. Because of the flight schedule the time overlaps will require Red Fox Woods keep the snack bar open virtually all day long. Plus in the future the number of flights will be extended.

Commissioner Rapport requested that when the final contract is drafted it provide for an annual review of the food services to assure satisfaction keeping in mind the eventual goal of a full service restaurant to be located next to the SIA terminal.

Comm. Seppanen noted that the main concern regarding the concessions is that they be self-supporting, however he finds it difficult to say "no" to the Michigan Commission for the Blind. They have provided such services and have an excellent reputation throughout the State of Michigan. Comm. Corkin noted that services to the public is the number one consideration. The proposals recommended are being presented by experienced vendors. Hopefully in the future there will be a need for increased restaurant services.

It was moved by Comm. Curto, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Seppanen) that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board award the Snack Bar and Gift/News Concession at Sawyer International Airport Terminal to Red Fox Woods and the Vending Machine Concession at Sawyer International Airport Terminal to Northern Michigan Vending, final agreement for signature still forthcoming.

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The Committee considered a recommendation from Steve Powers, County Administrator, to dissolve the County Airport Commission. Administrator Powers noted that while significant progress of relocating the Airport has occurred much work remains. T-hangars, paving, north access road, and hangar improvements are among the capital improvements that are planned for Sawyer that potentially have large financial impact to the County. Decisions regarding reinvestment of the sale proceeds from the County Airport must also be made. The sale of the County Airport has not yet closed and could require additional policy direction and the County Board should make these decisions. The County Board’s status of successor entity and policy making clarity would provide for one decision making body for the economic development of Sawyer. This would provide consistent decision making to accomplish County goals, specifically reducing the Airport’s burden on general County revenues. Administrator Powers further recommends that County Staff and the County Board liaisons (for 1999 Commissioners Rapport and Joseph) could serve as contact points for airport users.

Commission consensus generally concurred with the concept that if an item is not a policy or contractual issue (lease) then County staff or Sawyer staff can handle it. The County Board must provide staff with clear direction should the Airport Commission be dissolved otherwise lots of issues may be coming to the Board without staff intervention or Committee review. Should staff not be able to resolve an issue, the Commissioner serving as contact points could be contacted and if necessary the County Board may have to take a matter up.

Administrator Powers also noted that the dissolution of the Airport Commission must be done by the appropriate resolution which can provide details on County Board direction to Staff within that resolution, however it would be difficult for the resolution to be completed by the next County Board meeting.

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 dissolve the County Airport Commission by the appropriate resolution to be presented to the Committee of the Whole on October 12, 1999, and that the County Board become the policy maker for Sawyer International Airport, and further that the matter be reviewed in March and in the meantime Commissioners Rapport and Joseph become contact liaisons for Airport issues.

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The Committee considered a request from the Upper Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development District for $275 for Marquette County’s FY 2000 Dues. The UPRC&D is in the process of budget preparation and the request amount is the same as was in 1999.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Arsenault, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the FY 2000 UPRC&D Dues request of $275.

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The Committee considered approval of a grant of MAP funds in the amount of $344,700, which requires a local share of $19,150 to be paid from Passenger Facility Charges. One project for consideration is for three taxiways in the area where additional t-hangars will be constructed in the future. The second project is repairs to some taxiways at the south end of the air field and rehabilitation of the taxiway to hangar 400 where the DNR and State Police aircraft will be located.

Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, was present and noted that he was not aware of this funding availability until yesterday morning. This is one small example of the larger national debate regarding airport funding as was discussed last Saturday with U.S. Senator Carl Levin.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Curto, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the grant for $344,700 of MAP funds.

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The Committee considered an Amendment to the Sales Agreement with O’Dovero Properties/KBHC for the Marquette County Airport Property. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that the original agreement provided for closure on August 1st. As per Sec. IV, Paragraph B the County Board extended that date to September 30th. Administrator Powers now requests the County Board extend the closing until October 15th. This will cause no financial penalty to Marquette County and he is optimistic that the extension will provide for the resolution of all leases at the previous County Airport.

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 an extension as per Sec. IV of the Sales Agreement for the County Airport until October 15, 1999.

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The Committee considered the purchase of a generator through State Surplus Properties. Steve Powers, County Administrator, explained that Lt. Mike Zorza, Emergency Program Manager, and George Wright, Facilities Manager, had the opportunity to inspect a large diesel operated portable generator which could provide enough backup power for half of the Courthouse or Perkins Park, or whatever facilities it may be needed at. The price of the surplus generator is $1,500. The generator is 10 years old and has an estimated value of $10,000. Brand new this piece of equipment would cost $25,000-$30,000 and is such a good deal that it cannot be passed up. The funding is available in the Resource Management Budget.

It was moved by Comm. Tuominen, seconded by Comm. Wallace, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the purchase of a State Surplus Generator in the amount of $1,500.

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Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Bill Pesola, Red Fox Woods, was present and thanked the Committee for supporting their food concessions proposal for the Sawyer International Airport Terminal. Providing good service is very important to Red Fox Woods and they also want to see the food service developed and expanded in the future and welcome an annual review.

Chairperson Corkin thanked Red Fox Woods for the fine dinner served at the Captain’s Restaurant during the Sawyer International Airport dedication weekend.
COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin noted that a Special County Board of Commissioners meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, September 29th at 11:00 a.m. The purpose of the meeting is to award the paving contract because it is late in the construction season and the work must be completed before winter.

Chairperson Corkin also noted that the Michigan Works Service Center dedication will be held Wednesday, September 29th from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Dr. Barbara Bolin, Director of the Michigan Department of Career Development, will preside over the dedication ceremonies. The new Service Center is located at 1498 O’Dovero Drive, Marquette.

Comm. Rapport requested that letters of thanks be sent to our Legislators and Members of the Committee who planned and/or participated in the Sawyer Dedication Ceremonies.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, thanked Commissioners for scheduling the Special Meeting tomorrow to award the paving contract.

Steve Powers reported on the conveyances for KI Sawyer from the Air Force. The Air Force wanted Marquette County to sign the conveyances but could not meet the terms. David Knisely has continued to meet with the Air Force and Senator Levin has announced that a resolution of the matter should be forthcoming.

Administrator Powers also reported that funds in this year and next year’s budget are available for records storage. Presently the KBIC will allow the County Clerk records to remain at the Airport for several months after closing. Meanwhile, the County is negotiating for potential storage space with the City of Marquette either at the MarqTran Building or Lakeview Arena, and KI Sawyer is also a potential site.

Chairperson Corkin announced that this Friday, October 1, a Workforce Summit will be held at the Chip-in Island Resort in Harris, Michigan. The Workforce Summit is a cooperative effort hosted by Michigan Works/Lake Superior Community Partnership and Operation Action U.P.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, September 28, 1999, 6:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
   MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 14, 1999.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. 2000 County Budget Recommendation.
8. Bid Award for Paving at Sawyer International Airport.
9. Sawyer International Airport Terminal Concessions.
10. Airport Decision Making Structure.
12. Grant Award
13. Amendment to MST C6 Sales Agreement
14. Generator Purchase
15. PUBLIC COMMENT.
16. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
17. ADJOURNMENT.