The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, August 8, 2000 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. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the July 25, 2000 Committee of the Whole Meeting 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 addition: Item 12) Report on EDA IV.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period July 28, 2000 thru August 3, 2000 in the amount of $202,688.12 be approved.

The Committee was presented with an Update from the Lake Superior Community Partnership. Mike Skytta, Co-Chair, Economic Development Committee, was present to provide a brief synopsis and introduce two staff members of the Partnership along with Rev. Msgr. Louis Cappo. Mr. Skytta explained that the following Mission Statement of the Lake Superior Community Partnership is being followed very closely: "The Partnership is committed to long-term community improvement to build sustainable employment and increase opportunities for all people, including our youth. Members are committed to collaborative decision making and will make a strong and lasting commitment to serve our region by investing time and resources. The Partnership will be a place where dialogue and cooperative decision making between the private and public sections results in position change for a progressive community and economic development and connection with the global economy."

Amy Clickner, Director of Operations, presented the Committee with highlights of the past year. Mike Gokey, Director of Economic Development, gave Commissioners an update on proposed team configurations and strategies.

Chairperson Corkin thanked the Lake Superior Community Partnership for their presentation and dedicated work to the community.

The Committee considered the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Report prepared by the CUPPAD Regional Commission to maintain designation as an "economic development district" with the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). The document provides an analysis and identification of the changes to local economic conditions. The strategy is designed to guide the economic growth of the region.

Commissioners discussed the report and offered the following list of amendments:

1) Chapter 3, Page 1: K.I. Sawyer Project Sawyer Lumber/Louisiana Pacific be added.
3) Chapter 5, Page 3: Lake Superior Partnership be added to the list of organizations.

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 approve and forward the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Report with the recommended changes to the CUPPAD Regional Commission.

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The Committee considered the FY 2001 Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement for Friend of the Court with Michigan Family Independence Agency. The Cooperative Reimbursement Program is a federal, state, and County effort to collect child support from parents who are legally obligated to pay. This is accomplished through services provided by the Friend of the Court and Family Support to locate
absent parents, modify child support orders, enforce child support orders, and collect child support payments.

The contract provides up to $364,304 to fund the Friend of the Court for October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001. The total estimated cost for the Friend of the Court and central services for same time period is $583,426. Using federal rules, the Family Independence Agency reimburses the County 66% of eligible costs. Estimated eligible costs for the same time period are $551,976. Generally, only support collection activities are eligible for reimbursement. The contract sets a not to exceed amount. The actual 2001 budget, including staffing levels, will be set by the County Board of Commissioners. For a twelve-month period beginning April 1, 1999, the Friend of the Court collected $7,076,000 in support.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, recommends the County Board approve the resolution authorizing the Board Chair to sign the contract and other documents needed to implement this action.

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 approve the resolution authorizing the Board Chair to sign the FY 2001 Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement and other documents needed for Friend of the Court with the Michigan FIA.

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The Committee considered the Recreation Grant Application for Perkins Park Development Project Phase III. Marquette County has the opportunity to apply to the Department of Natural Resources for a recreation grant to facilitate Phase III of the Perkins Park Development Project. Funding is available from the Natural Resources Trust Fund and the Clean Michigan Initiative Recreation Bond Program. A single application makes the County eligible under both programs.

Phase III improvements include construction of seven pull-through camp sites for larger RV's and 5th wheel trailers, enlargement of several other sites, utility extension, rerouting of the south campground road, relocation of the picnic area, and plantings to provide screening between campsites and separation between campsites and day use areas. Total project costs are estimated at $218,700. Both grants require a minimum 25% local match. Ranking criteria utilized by the State award “preference points” for local entities which exceed the minimum percentage. The Planning Commission suggests a 74%/26% cost allocation resulting in a local match amount of $56,862.

On August 2, 2000, the Marquette County Planning Commission recommended the County Board authorize the Resource Management/Development Department Staff to submit a notice of intent; adopt a resolution supporting the application and committing matching funds; appropriate matching funds from the Land Acquisition Fund; authorize the Administrator to sign the application; and authorize the Board Chair to sign all documents if awarded the grant.

Steve Powers, County Administrator, concurs with the recommendation of the Planning Commission with the exception of the County's project match which should be appropriated from the Forest and Recreation Fund, not the Land Acquisition Fund.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and carried on a roll call vote 7 Ayes (Comm. Roberts, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Arsenault, Comm. Joseph, Comm. Curto, Comm. Rapport, Comm. Roberts) to 2 Nays (Comm. Bergdahl, Comm. Seppanen), that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board concur with the recommendation of Steve Powers, County Administrator, and authorize the Resource Management/Development Department Staff to submit a notice of intent; adopt a resolution supporting the application and committing matching funds; appropriate matching funds from the Forest and Recreation Fund; authorize the Administrator to sign the application; and authorize the Board Chair to sign all documents if awarded the grant.

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The Committee considered Acceptance of FAA Grant (AIP and MAP Funding for North Access Road etc.) The grant offer from FAA is for $3,363,600. It consists of $909,000 of AIP entitlement funds and $2,454,600 of MAP funding. This funding is to be used on the following four projects: 1) Construction of the north access road; 2) Phase 2 of rehabbing taxiways, including the north half of the parallel taxiway, and cross taxiways in the north half of the airfield; 3) Removal of navigational and communication systems from the previous Marquette County Airport, and relocation of some communications systems to Sawyer International Airport; and 4) Phase 2 rehabbing hangar 400, including insulation of the building and separation of electrical service to each bay and the central administration section.
The grant must be executed by August 30, 2000. The only special condition associated with this grant is the $259,000 of FY 2001 AIP entitlement funds cannot be used before the beginning of that fiscal year. That is no problem because that begins October 2, 2000, and we will not have used the $3,104,600 of FY 2000 funding by then. Acceptance of this grant does include the standard assurances we must agree to each time we accept a grant.

Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, recommends acceptance of this grant offer and requests the Board of Commissioners authorize the Chairperson to execute.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Seppanen, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board accept the FAA Grant for AIP and MAP Funding for North Access Road, etc., and authorize the Chairperson to execute the agreement.

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The Committee considered Amendment to Engineering Services Agreement for Sawyer International Airport. Hal Pawley, Airport Manager, explained that they have previously received a MAP grant for the design of the north access road project. The Board of Commissioners in February 2000 approved an agreement with URS Greiner for engineering design of this project. They have now received AIP/MAP grant funding for accomplishment of the construction and applicable engineering services.

Mr. Pawley recommends approval of the amendment to the engineering services agreement with URS Greiner to have them provide construction surveying inspection, and contract administration services during construction. The price of these services is $152,000, and has been approved by the engineering staff at the Bureau of Aeronautics. The construction cost of this project is $1,624,528.

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 the Amendment to the Engineering Services Agreement with URS Greiner.

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The Committee considered a informational report on EDA IV Funding. Chester J. Straub, Jr., Acting Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, in a letter to the Honorable Spencer Abraham, informed the County Board that the application submitted to the EDA by Marquette County and the Board of County Road Commissioners for roof repairs on four buildings and road improvements on the former Sawyer Air Force Base has been approved in the amount of $1,182,000. Congressional notification should have already been provided by the Office of Legislative Affairs for the Department of Commerce.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the communication be placed on file.

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ACCOUNCMENTS:

Chairperson Corkin announced that he attended the Open House and Dedication for Bio Resources in Marquette. Bio Resources have a payroll of approximately $1 million dollars, plus another $1 million in fees paid out.

Chairperson Rapport encouraged all citizens who have not yet voted to please get out and vote!!!

Administrator Powers announced that he has received verification from the Department of Environmental Quality that the Clean-up Grant Application for the Pellestar/Schneider Metals site has been received and is under review.

Administrator Powers announced that a Budget Work Session is scheduled for Monday, August 28, 2000 at 1:00 p.m., and tentatively Tuesday afternoon. The budget will be available Tuesday in Commissioner mailboxes.
Comm. Bergdahl reminded all citizens of Marquette County that the County Fair starts Thursday, August 10, 2000. He encouraged all to participate. There are many young entrepreneurs who raise beef and hogs. They are from the ages of 12 to 18. The auction will be Saturday, August 12, 2000 for anyone interested in purchasing. We need to support these young people!!

Chairperson Corkin on behalf of the County Board thanked Comm. Bergdahl and all the other people who worked all year long to make the Fair possible in Marquette County.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Connie M. Brnam
Deputy County Clerk
ROLL CALL.


PUBLIC COMMENT.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Review of Claims and Accounts.

Update from Lake Superior Community Partnership (materials forthcoming at meeting).


FY 2001 Cooperative Reimbursement Agreement for Friend of the Court with Michigan FIA.

Recreation Grant Application for Perkins Park Development Project Phase III.

Acceptance of FAA Grant (AIP and MAP Funding for North Access Road etc.)

Amendment to Engineering Services Agreement for Sawyer International Airport.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

ADJOURNMENT.