The Marquette County Board of Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, September 12, 2000, at 6:00 P.M. in Room 231 of the Henry A. Skewis Courthouse Annex, Baraga, Avenue, Marquette, Michigan.


It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the minutes of the August 23, 2000 Committee of the Whole meeting 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 additions: Item 13) Agreement for Unmetered Electrical Costs at KI Sawyer, Item 14) Sublease for Sawyer Building 503, Item 15) Equipment Request from Forsyth Township Emergency Services and Police Department, and deletion of Item 11) Rental Agreement with Michigan DNR for Hangar Space.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Curto, and unanimously carried by voice vote that Claims and Accounts for the period September 1 through September 7, 2000 in the amount of $510,814.10 be approved.

The Committee considered a revised schedule for Health Department fees for Dental Health, Community Health, and Personal Health Programs. James Hayward, DDS, Dental Clinic Director, was present to discuss the Health Department Fee Schedules and answer questions.

On May 31, 2000 the Board of Health approved the Community Health and Personal Health Fee Schedules, and on July 26, 2000 approved the Dental Health Fee Schedule. As required by the Public Health Code all fees charged by local Health Departments must be approved by the local governing entity, in this case the County Board of Commissioners. Fees cannot be more than the reasonable cost of performing a service.

Community Health Fees were last updated in 1994, Personal Health in 1998, and Dental Health Fees in 1998. The Health Department uses a sliding fee schedule based on the customer’s ability to pay and no one is denied service. Most of the fees in Dental Health are charged to Medicaid or MIChild. The increased Dental Health Fees are needed to support the clinics in Marquette and at Sawyer. The additional fees will generate $65,000 annually above the current schedules.

Comm. Joseph expressed concern that by adopting the new Fee Schedule for the Health Department to be effective September 19, 2000 that we are taking part of the FY 2001 budget and moving it forward. This may set a precedent for other departments to advance any fee increases before the 2001 budget takes effect.

Dr. Hayward explained that the new fee schedule, especially the Dental Health Fees will enable the Dental Clinic to apply the fees to the Medicaid schedule. The increased fees will result in no increase to Medicaid and MIChild clients.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and carried by voice vote 8 Ayes to 1 Nay (Comm. Joseph), that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Health Department Fee Schedules for Dental Health, Community Health, and Personal Health Programs effective September 19, 2000.

The Committee considered a memorandum from the Michigan Association of Counties regarding Mental Health Bid Out. Doug Morton, CEO of Pathways, was present to discuss the Michigan Department of Community Health’s revised plan with Commissioners and answer questions.

Doug Morton explained that the first Michigan Community Mental Health Bid Out Plan was released 18 months ago and not well received throughout the State of Michigan. A second plan has been prepared and between now and October 1st it will be submitted to the Federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). So far the HCFA believes competition is the only way for Community Mental Health to provide for quality and cost effectiveness. The Michigan Department of Community Mental Health Bid Out Plan was released 18 months ago and not well received throughout the State of Michigan. A second plan has been prepared and between now and October 1st it will be submitted to the Federal Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). So far the HCFA believes competition is the only way for Community Mental Health to provide for quality and cost effectiveness.
Health is presenting a plan designed upon regionalism as an alternative to competition. In the Upper Peninsula there has been an attempt to establish a regional coordinating agency and Comm. Curto has been representing the Pathways Board on the Regional Alliance. The Federal Government has allowed a sole source public system for two plus years. Michigan is unique in the United States and the whole country is watching Michigan. Doug Morton expressed his appreciation for County Board support for various mental health mergers which now has evolved into Pathways and the recent merger with Eastern Upper Peninsula Substance Abuse Services.

Chairperson Corkin noted that Pathways is a leader in the Upper Peninsula for the future of providing mental health services. The Pathways Board is a very proactive organization and he appreciates Comm. Curto and CEO Morton keeping the County Board informed.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Tuominen and unanimously carried by voice vote to place the communications on file.

The Committee considered a 911 Administrative Findings Resolution. Joe Van Oosterhout, Central Dispatch Manager, was present to discuss the resolution and answer questions.

The resolution includes administrative findings required in the Amended 911 Plan. The County Board of Commissioners is required to issue administrative findings to memorialize an updated list of service suppliers, the highest monthly charge, and the emergency services providers within the service district. The findings also update the public safety answering points (PSAP).

The Board of Commissioners adopted the Amended 911 Plan on July 5, 2000, after a 90 day comment period. The Central Dispatch Policy Board reviewed the administrative findings on June 15, 2000.

It was moved by Comm. Seppanen, seconded by Comm. Roberts, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Resolution for the Final 911 Service Plan Administrative Findings for the geographic boundaries within Marquette County as per the Emergency Telephone Service Enabling Act.

The Committee considered a bid award for Engineering Services at Sawyer (EDA III).

Proposals were received on August 30, 2000 for engineering design services related to EDA III. The project includes heating system conversions of Buildings 407, 426, 663, 666, 667, 668, 726, 725, and 727. In addition, a variety of repair and replacement of water and wastewater components will be accomplished.

Five bids were received for the Engineering Services Agreement. Robert E. Lee & Associates of Green Bay, Wisconsin was the low responsive bidder at $35,800. The Engineering Services Agreement is EDA Grant funded. Ed Bailey, Operations Manager at KI Sawyer, has had previous satisfactory experience with Robert E. Lee & Associates and recommends they receive the bid as the lowest qualified bidder.

It was moved by Comm. Rapport, seconded by Comm. Roberts, *p-1X and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Agreement with Robert E. Lee & Associates for the EDA III Grant Mechanical Engineering Design Services at Sawyer for $35,800.

The Committee considered a resolution authorizing a Contract with the Michigan Department of Transportation for an Airport Awareness Grant.

MDOT provides grants to increase public awareness of commercial air service at smaller regional airports with the goal of increasing use of the airports. MDOT will provide $25,000 for marketing with a local match of $2,778 required. The grant and match are included in the 2000 Sawyer International Airport Budgets.

Planned activities include advertising, direct mailings to travel agents, and hosting Chamber of Commerce events such as Business After Hours. The Fly from Nearby marketing program was funded by an Airport Awareness Grant.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Joseph, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve the Resolution adopting and approving the Contract Agreement with the Michigan Department of Transportation for the purpose of obtaining a Michigan Air Service Grant for Sawyer Airport.
The Committee considered a recommendation from the KI Sawyer Economic Development Committee to approve an Unmetered Electrical Cost Agreement with AFBCA. Tom Rumor, KI Sawyer Development Director, was present to explain the agreement and answer questions.

As part of Marquette County's ongoing effort to reduce the cost of unmetered electricity at Sawyer, in addition to implementing cost cutting measures and reductions by UPPCO, Sawyer Staff had requested that the AFBCA share with this cost. Mr. Rumora noted that Air Force is under no obligation but would like to see Marquette County succeed in redeveloping the air base and has agreed to share in the unmetered electrical costs.

As a result of recent discussions, AFBCA Staff and KISDD Staff have agreed to recommend to the KISED/DC and to the County Board a resolution containing the following issues regarding unmetered electrical costs:

1) AFBCA would reimburse the County for one-half of the unmetered electrical costs the County has paid for the months of January through August 2000 (this would amount to one-half of approximately $140,000).

2) The AFBCA would contribute a flat sum of $6,000 per month for the unmetered electrical costs beginning on September 15, 2000 and continuing through June 15, 2001.

3) The AFBCA will continue to be responsible for maintenance of the electrical distribution system including the $3,000 monthly fee to UPPCO through June 15, 2001.

4) Marquette County and AFBCA will execute the amendment to the EDC Agreement by which the County agrees to accept the transfer of ownership of the Sawyer Electrical Utility not later than June 15, 2001.

KISDD Staff and Civil Counsel believe that these proposed terms are reasonable with respect to both the Air Force and the County and recommend that the County Board approve these terms and authorize the County Board to execute the documents necessary for their implementation.

Commissioners agreed that this is good news and commended Tom Rumora and Harley Andrews, and thanked the Air Force for their cooperation in the matter.

It was moved by Comm. Wallace, seconded by Comm. Rapport, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the Unmetered Electrical Cost Agreement between Marquette County and the Air Force with the appropriate resolution.

* * * * * * * * * * *

The Committee considered a proposal for a two year lease with a purchase option from the Michigan State Missions Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists for Sawyer Building 503. Tom Rumora, KI Sawyer Development Department Director, was present to explain the proposed lease and answer questions.

Year one and two of the proposed lease will be $2 per sq. ft. or $20,000 annually based on approximately 10,000 sq. ft. in Building 503. The Free Will Baptists propose a lease for two years with an option to purchase the building at that time at a purchase price of $190,755. This price is contingent on the County providing heat conversion, the cost of which would be recovered at the time of purchase and added to the proposed purchase price. They are planning to use the building as a church. They have selected a pastor who would move to KI Sawyer with his family. The number of employees would be small, primarily the pastor and possibly some clerical staff. They have five additional families who have agreed to move to Sawyer to help with the establishment of the church. Mr. Rumora further noted that the lease/purchase agreement is as good an agreement that any proposed tenant would offer for Building 503, however the religious community would be a welcome addition to KI Sawyer.

The Rev. Rex Evans, Chairperson of the Michigan State Missions Board for the National Association of Free Will Baptists, on behalf of his church thanked the County Board for their consideration in this matter.

It was moved by Comm. Roberts, seconded by Comm. Tuominen, and unanimously carried by voice vote, that the Committee of the Whole recommend the County Board approve of the lease/purchase agreement for Sawyer Building 503 with the Michigan State Missions Board of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

* * * * * * * * * *
The Committee considered a request from the Forsyth Township Emergency Medical Services and Police Departments for personal property items from KI Sawyer. Tom Rumora, KI Sawyer Development Director, was present and noted that no one else has asked for these particular items. The Air Force has placed a value on the various items of $11,677, most of which is furniture and office type equipment which would be used by the Forsyth Police and Emergency Services Department.

Mr. Rumora noted that it is recommended the County Board waive the current Personal Property Policy to approve the request from Forsyth Township at no cost. He also noted that recently the County Board waived the Personal Property Policy to allow the Health Department to acquire some furniture. Some of these items were damaged and the KI Sawyer Economic Development Committee recommended to allow them to replace these damaged items for the Dental Clinic at no cost.

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 waive the Personal Property Policy for Sawyer and approve the request by the Forsyth Township Emergency Medical Services and Police Department for various personal property items at KI Sawyer at no cost (mostly furniture), and further that the County Health Department be allowed to replace damaged personal property items for the Dental Clinic at no cost.

* * * * * * *

The Committee received an update on the KI Sawyer Business Plan. Tom Rumora, KI Sawyer Development Director, provided introductory remarks and background materials then Anne Giroux, Sawyer Business Manager, demonstrated the Business Work Plan Spreadsheet.

Mr. Rumora noted that the original Business Plan was done in 1998 and funded by the OEA. It included marketing, transportation, and utilities. There were many unknowns at that time including heat conversion, North Access Road, renaissance zone, caretaker, airport relocation, governance, grants from EDA, MAP, etc.

Mr. Rumora noted the Business Plan Update has been funded internally with oversight from John Blumberg, Anderson Tackman & Co. There are fewer unknowns and more historical data is now available on costs and revenues. The Work Plan is an ongoing tool, not an end in itself, but a means to an end with a measurable statement of goals and objectives. The Plan must be used and updated regularly as a proactive means for planning, budgeting, and managing or has little value. Mr. Rumora presented a list of 50 reasons for the Plan Update and actions now required.

Anne Giroux presented a computer spreadsheet of the Work Plan to Commissioners by projecting the various charts and graphs on a screen. Eleven spreadsheets were shown with data variables ranging from the year 1999 all the way through the year 2013. Commissioners asked Ms. Giroux to insert variables "what ifs" into the spreadsheets. By doing so the County Board could quickly see various financial pictures of Sawyer over the next 5, 10, or 15 years. Commissioners agreed that the Work Plan Spreadsheet is a valuable tool and commended Anne Giroux, Tom Rumora, and John Blumberg for developing it.

Tom Rumora summarized. Many important issues will be converging over the next few months and it is imperative to make good business decisions with clear purpose and direction. The County Board and the KI Sawyer Economic Development Committee must make decisions on what we want at KI Sawyer. The Work Plan will provide the information on how to get there. The KI/EDC could set goals, objectives, approve policies and practices as appropriate with County Board support so that the Business Plan would be the tool for good decisions for the future.

Chairperson Corkin opened the meeting for public comment.

Bill Birch, Retired CEO Pathways, was present and noted that there is life after retirement. He visits Sawyer frequently and is now working part-time at the NMU Police Academy. He believes it is unfortunate that both major access roads to the Airport are under construction at the same time. He felt that we must be more sensitive to travel in and out of the base.

Chairperson Corkin requested that Administrator Powers inquire into the MDOT construction schedule.

There being no further public comment, this portion of the meeting was closed.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Corkin attended the recent open house of the new Dental Clinic and was very impressed with the facility and urged other Commissioners to visit.
Comm. Tuominen noted that the Marquette County Solid Waste Plan has been approved by the Michigan DEQ.

Comm. Wallace, with assistance from Tom Rumora, presented the three plaques he received on behalf of Marquette County when he attended the National Association of Installation Developers meeting last month in California. An appropriate place will be found to display the three awards.

Comm. Rapport noted that the Sawyer community has erected a large sign at Sawyer. She commended the Sawyer Community for continuing in its efforts to make Sawyer a good place to live.

Administrator Powers explained that there is construction on both M-94 and M-553 which may delay travel to Sawyer International Airport. He urged the public to give themselves an extra 15 minutes travel time.

Comm. Bergdahl noted that the Planning Commission recently met with CUPPAD regarding a Trail System Plan. A public hearing on the Plan was delayed for one month to work out some technical details.

Comm. Bergdahl also questioned during the clearing for the North Access Road to Sawyer International Airport why the trees were bulldozed into piles and burned. He contended the trees had some value and could have been sold.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]
David J. Roberts
Marquette County Clerk
MARQUETTE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Tuesday, September 12, 2000, 6:00 P.M.
Room 231, Henry A. Skewis Annex, Marquette, MI 49855

1. ROLL CALL.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT.
4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.
5. Review of Claims and Accounts.
6. Health Department Fee Schedules for Dental Health, Community Health, and Personal Health Programs.
7. Mental Health Bid Out.
8. 911 Resolution and Plan Update.
9. Bid Award for Engineering Services at Sawyer (EDA III).
10. Airport Awareness Grant.
11. Rental Agreement with Michigan DNR for Hangar Space at Sawyer–International Airport.
13. Unspecified item
14. Subitem for 503 (Chapel)
15. Equipment for 404
16. PUBLIC COMMENT.
17. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, STAFF COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.
18. ADJOURNMENT.